



Honeyguide

WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

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**Autumn in Menorca
7 – 14 October 2016**

Participants

Russell and Sara Gomm
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Leader

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Report by Chris and Judith Gibson

Our base at Matchani Gran: <http://menorcacountryhouse.com>

Photos are by Chris Gibson and group members, indicated by initials, all taken during the holiday.

Cover compilation, all by Chris Gibson.

Top row – lentisc berries; Audouin's gull.

Middle row – crimson speckled moth; lichen patchwork at Es Grau; sea squill.

Bottom row – merenderas.



Above – lunchtime near Es Grau (CG).

This holiday, like 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 and some additional funds from the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust, leading to a total of €800 (£713) given to the 'Agronatural Farms' project of the Grup Balear d'Ornitologia i Defensa de la Naturalesa (GOB, the Balearic Ornithological Group); see account on page 8.

Anyone wanting to know more about GOB and its work should look at its website www.gobmenorca.com, or the English version of which is currently under development <https://english.gobmenorca.com>.

This year's donation brings the total given to GOB since the first Honeyguide holiday in Mallorca in 1992 to £10,518. As at November 2016, the total for all conservation contributions through Honeyguide since 1991 was £110,879.

DIARY

Day 1 – 7 October: arrival; a local walk around Matchani Gran, and Rafalet Cove

Several of the group having arrived over the past two days, and the rest coming in on different flights, lunch at Matchani Gran, St Climent, on the beautiful Balearic island of Menorca, was the first time we all got together. And what a lunch! It started the trip as it continued for the week: excellent food, warm weather, and red kites and booted eagles gracing the skies. The torrential rain of the previous day was barely discernable on the parched ground, but the new shoots of grass springing up hinted strongly that the 'second spring' was under way.

After lunch and a chance to unpack, we headed out into the gardens, where swallowtail and small copper butterflies nectared at flowers both native and planted, and numerous geranium bronzes flitted around their foodplants, the garden pelargoniums, while Cetti's warblers sang explosively from the Wild Woods. A leisurely walk in the fields beyond the gardens then followed, accompanied by the resident donkey, sheep and rescue horses which had grazed down the vegetation to bare earth and rock. Thekla larks and Sardinian warblers, the latter typically hiding in the low bushes, represented the resident birds, while the last few sub-Saharan migrants spoke of the end of summer: small groups of swallows moving through, and half a dozen blue-headed wagtails which fed amongst the ancient fig trees, protected from summer heat by stone walls.

Both blue-winged and red-winged grasshoppers jumped away with a flash of colour at almost every step, and large dung-beetles *Scarabaeus laticollis* did their best to clear the ground of the copious evidence of the grazing stock. Some of the numerous dead spikes of spring-flowering asphodels hosted aggregations of aestivating snails, and on closer examination revealed the well-camouflaged nymphs of large brown shield bugs *Carpocoris fuscispinus*. Other insects included the large, chevronned weevil *Coniocleonus nigrosuturatus*, red-veined darters, a vestal moth and several clouded yellow butterflies.

Away from the main gathering ground of the animals, delicate autumn daffodils and pink merenderas hinted strongly that we were in for a floral treat during the week: previous trips at this time of year have lacked the prior rains, and the flowers of autumn-flowering bulbs consequently almost absent. Returning to the farmhouse, we located a large Hermann's tortoise taking advantage of the warmth to forage before hibernation.



Rafalet Cove (CG); Hermann's tortoise (SL-J); *Myriostoma coliforme*, the pepperpot earthstar (SG).

Late afternoon, and to make the most of the short days, we headed out by minibus to Rafalet Cove at the far east of the island, walking along the first of several stretches of the *Camí de Cavalls*, a continuous coastal path and cycling/horse-riding route which runs around Menorca. The tracksides were bountiful with the ripening lentisc berries, many bushes harbouring migrant birds from the north, robins in particular, but also including blackbirds, song thrushes and a few blackcaps. Red admirals were everywhere, some pristine and clearly freshly emerged, but others more worn, and wandering, suggesting they were migrants returning south. Orb-web spiders were hanging around waiting for a meal to arrive; and while most were the common garden spider, closer examination of one particularly large specimen, with web anchor-points more than two metres apart, revealed the characteristic humps of *Araneus angulatus*.

Turning into the rocky, mossy gorge, we entered a magical grove of holm oaks, the sparse shrub layer consisting largely of butcher's broom. Sara soon showed her prowess as a sharp-eyed spotter of the less-than-obvious by finding a troop of pepperpot earthstars, eventually numbering more than ten individual fruiting bodies. Wonderfully exciting, given that this unmistakable fungus is very rare, indeed only recently rediscovered, in the UK. Arriving at the delightful, bijou cove, with rock samphire tumbling over the boulders, Jude followed Sara's lead and pointed out the tiny pink scale insects *Ceroplastes* sp, star-like with extruding strands of white wax on the *Pistacia* leaves.

In the crystal-clear water, there were shoals of fish (including cow-bream and comber) and several sea anemones, including bright red beadlets and almost iridescent green-and-purple snakelocks; on the cliffs, several pigeons showed no signs that they were other than pure-bred rock doves.

The light was fading, so after a lovely gentle start to the trip it was time to leave and return to Matchani Gran for dinner. But afterwards, it was such a still, mild night that we felt the urge to deploy the bat detector for the first time. Surprisingly no bats appeared, but we were rewarded with the nocturnal sounds of singing field, mole and tree crickets merging with the eerie wailing of the local stone-curlews, and moths around the lights included pygmy footman, coppery taupe and rusty-dot pearl.



Scale insects *Ceroplastes* sp. on lentic leaves (CG).

Day 2 – 8 October: Es Grau, Sa Roca, Son Saura del Nord

Dawn broke, and a large thunderstorm to the north of the island illuminated the scene with numerous flashes of lightning but produced only a few half-hearted raindrops as the group headed out for a pre-breakfast walk. Robins were everywhere (suggesting an overnight arrival), while song thrushes flew over calling in a constant procession. Stone-curlews were noisy in the early gloom, and two were seen in their usual field along the drive: as the week progressed and we became more familiar with their movements it became clear that the field held at least six individuals, probably a couple of family parties. The first of a week of good breakfasts followed – local breads, jams and cheeses, and eggs to our own specification, the waitress coping admirably with our various requests in an unfamiliar language, although the new-fangled coffee machine took a little getting used to!



Stone-curlew (SL-J) and a 'vegetable hedgehog' *Astragalus balearicus* (JG).

First stop after breakfast was at the Es Grau visitor centre, a fairly new building with interesting interpretation of the surrounding wildlife, leaflets in abundance and clean 'facilities'. The garden contained planted examples of the various 'vegetable hedgehogs' or *socarrels*, which are so characteristic of the windswept rocky peninsulas on Menorca, and a single spike of sea squill, in full flower with strikingly green pollen, springing from its huge, protruding, poisonous bulb. The flowers harboured a red and black ground bug *Spilostethus pandurus*, while Lang's short-tailed blue and Cleopatra butterflies visited the various nectar sources, particularly stink aster. Several Italian wall lizards and Moorish geckoes basked in the strengthening sunlight as the morning cloud started to disperse.

On then to the hides overlooking the lagoon, linked by a further stretch of the *Camí de Cavalls*. The most numerous waterbirds were coot and pochard, in their hundreds and thousands respectively, but careful searching soon revealed a few shovelers, gadwalls, red-crested pochards and perhaps 20 ferruginous ducks. Cormorants and both little and great egrets rested and fed along the shore, while the skies overhead held good numbers of red kite and booted eagle. A single common buzzard proved to be our only sighting of the week, and one or two marsh harriers flew around the lagoon, causing havoc among the ducks. Through the telescopes a distant brownish smudge resolved itself into a young greater flamingo feeding in the shallows of a rocky island. Perhaps most surprising though were the tight rafts of dabchicks, each with 50 or more birds, gathering in the clear patches of open water between beds of water weeds.

Mammals on the island are few and far between, so a dead lesser white-toothed shrew was interesting, if somewhat grisly, while another session of close examination of the bushes revealed the 'piped icing' of cottony cushion scale-insects. Much more noticeable were the large three-dimensional webs of the cage-web spider, most with a distinctively pied, tuberculate female in residence.

A group of rocks proved a strong draw on account of the incredible mosaic of lichens growing thereon. Although few of the 20 or 30 (maybe more) species could be named, the colours and patterns can only be described as a masterpiece of natural art. As we returned to the van, an encounter with a small, maybe two-year old tortoise, provided another photo-opportunity.

For lunch we headed inland to the low, pine-clad hills of Sa Roca, and an improvised picnic site on the quiet roadside. Matchani Gran had done us proud, with rolls of our choosing and accompaniments of nuts, fruit and cakes. A walk up the forestry track seemed initially disappointing – since our last visit it seems a fire has swept through the trees, and the understorey of strawberry-tree and Mediterranean heath has been particularly badly affected, perhaps why we failed to see either larvae or adults of two-tailed pasha, a highlight of previous visits here. And as always, the pines were very quiet in bird terms, with just a few great tits and chaffinches and a single jay adding to the ubiquitous robins. But such were the sharp eyes in the group that we soon found creatures of interest: Russell, delving under rocks, soon turned up both a wood cricket and a scorpion, later identified as the Balearic endemic *Euscorpium balearicus*. Jude spotted a small, flattened mantis in the undergrowth – again with hindsight and research, the first assumption of a nymphal praying mantis was incorrect, and it proved to be *Ameles decolor*. Meanwhile, wall browns were teasing Susi along the track, a lovely grasshopper *Oedaleus decorus* posed for photos, and a hatchling tortoise, only 4cm long, won many a heart, especially it seems that of David G as it was one of his holiday highlights. And more prosaically, a series of pine marten scats hinted at the mammalian fauna of these rocky woods.



Strawberry tree, Mediterranean heath (CG); Balearic scorpion (RG).

Next stop was a new site for Honeyguide, Son Saura del Nord, a ‘wetland’ close to Son Parc. However, it seems the autumn rains had missed this area, and the marsh was completely dry. So no wildfowl or waders, although we were treated to the sight of four marsh harriers (probably a family) ranging widely over the site. Notwithstanding, the smaller creatures more than made up for it, from the numerous, dramatic large wasp spiders in their webs and equally dramatic wolf spiders *Lycosa narbonensis* quartering the field, to a huge praying mantis and several field crickets. A patch of stink aster was a magnet for nectaring holly blues and painted ladies, and also (almost) concealed an Egyptian locust, watching us with its striped eyes. Lesser emperor dragonflies hawked around the edges of the sharp rush beds, and a western willow emerald damselfly posed more obligingly for all to see. Sadly, the adult two-tailed pasha which flew out of the trees and over the marsh, the only one of the week, was seen only by those looking up rather than down...

Returning homeward via the *Camí d'en Kane*, the 18th century ‘main road’ linking Mahón with Ciutadella gave us views of the ‘hidden interior’ of the island, and a spectacularly close view of a very pale booted eagle. A spot of pre-dinner ‘batting’ produced both common and Kuhl’s pipistrelles, the different frequencies of their sonar calls readily discernable in the bat detector.

Day 3 – 9 October: Addaia Lagoons, Cap Favàritx, Binidali Cove

A clear, but breezier, dawn revealed a reduction in numbers of the commoner northern migrants, especially robins, but the trusty stonies performed on cue, and a lone marsh harrier drifted over as we wandered back for breakfast.

Out on the road we paused to view the impressive geology on the approach to Mongofre, the dramatic rocks showing millions of years of wind erosion, exposing shades of pink, grey and brown, with seams of harder yellow rock, while booted eagles, ravens, a kestrel and a pair of peregrines flew above the cliffs. Among the numerous song thrushes and robins flitting along the hedgerows, a common redstart added to our tally of late sub-Saharan migrants. A stroll along the *Camí de Cavalls* towards Addaia then took us past the ‘Giraffe Rocks’, pigmented and patterned just like the hide of a giraffe, to the lagoons, which were relatively quiet in bird terms. However, with a little searching we located a greenshank, grey herons, little and great egrets and six black-necked grebes. An osprey flew in and gave excellent views as it flew around the lagoons, making a couple of feeding plunges, although the point of impact in both cases was out of sight.

A melodious warbler showed briefly in the tamarisks; the saltmarsh vegetation produced several large wasp spiders, our attention captured by the zig-zag stabilimentum of the webs; and Susi turned over a large snail, only to find it was in the process of laying eggs, something few of us had seen before.

After a picnic in the car park it was back to the road, noting a whinchat on the way, and then out to Cap Favàritx, a windswept rocky promontory with a lighthouse, continuing the geological theme of the day. The walk to the end of the point took us through a wonderful geological story, including shales bearing the trace fossils of burrowing marine worms and snails (which presumably ended up in that state as a result of some geo-environmental cataclysm) and a striking three-dimensional tracery of quartzite seams and intrusions. An interesting-looking jumping spider on the bare rocks proved elusive as to its identification: it looked very much like the distinguished jumping-spider *Sitticus distinguendus*, but so far as is known that species doesn't occur in the Balearics or indeed mainland Spain, although it is known from Corsica and mainland France.

As we contemplated one of the most important parts (in legal terms) of the peninsula, the ephemeral saline lagoon which is classed as a Priority habitat under the EU Habitats Directive, a large female peregrine flew through and then perched on a distant rock, our first Audouin's gull came into view, Mediterranean shags were flying, feeding and resting offshore, and a single Kentish plover fed in the pool itself.

While the exposed, salt-sprayed rocks had little vegetation apart from still-flowering patches of the endemic sea-lavender *Limonium minutum*, a little further inland a 'vegetable hedgehog garden' has developed, particularly following the near-complete removal of the choking blanket of invasive Hottentot-fig. And here Honeyguide contributed to the conservation efforts by removing a few resurgent plants of the invasive menace as we encountered them. The vegetable hedgehogs were well past flowering but retained enough leaves to demonstrate they constituted at least four (unrelated) species, all endemic to the Balearics. The salt-pruned bushes of *Phillyrea media* var. *rodriguezii* (again, an endemic variety) were home to numerous Sardinian warblers and stonechats, and a blue rock thrush was seen, perched typically against the skyline. An aggregation of flowering sea squills provided a dramatic endpoint to this particular walk.



Stonechat; trace fossils at Favàritx; sea squills (CG).

Our final stop of the day was at the small but scenic cove of Binadali, giving an opportunity for a little seawatching – but that was mainly watching the sea rather than anything using it! Apart from a few passing yellow-legged gulls, all we saw was a distant Cory's shearwater, and Russell chanced upon a dolphin, the brief glimpses suggesting bottle-nosed. Blue rock thrushes and Thekla larks showed well on the clifftop limestone pavement, and several distinctive dimorphic caterpillars, some green, others strongly patterned with yellow, black and red, munching the leaves of tree mallow, were eventually identified as the cream drab *Xanthodes albago*.

Our evening meal, the first of two at the local restaurant The Casino, gave us good food, a slice of local life, and chance to hear the nocturnal cries of the stone-curlews on the journeys there and back.

Day 4 – 10 October: Binidali Cove, Son Bou, Torre d'en Gaumes

The early morning crew headed back to Binidali before breakfast, and although it was a breezier day, the sea was calm – but still very quiet, apart from a lone gannet. However, the glorious sunrise and a few passerine migrants (meadow pipit, white wagtail and swallow), as well as a fleeting kingfisher in the cove itself, made the early start worthwhile.

Our first destination after breakfast was the south-coast resort of Son Bou, to enjoy the sand dunes, parts of which are cordoned off to try to prevent further erosion. It was interesting to see some of the specially-adapted plants in this hostile environment, including sea-holly and a particular favourite, the beautiful sand daffodil. Most of the daffodils had finished flowering and were releasing their large, black, shiny, beetle-like seeds onto the sand, but sufficient were still in flower to satisfy the photographers.

Other interesting plants included the silky-flowered hare's-foot grass, sweet Alison (a familiar bedding plant back home), *Scabiosa maritima* and *Lotus cytisoides*. The outflow lagoon as usual had a motley flock of mallards, including domestic variants, along with a few coots and surprisingly a single male red-crested pochard, not averse to exploiting the offerings of visitors.

Once we had ascertained we would be able to cross the stream at the end of our walk, we drove round to the back of the marsh and then walked the *Camí de Cavalls* right round to the Santo Tomas end of the beach. The first few hundred metres of this walk provided views over the flooded fields, with cattle egrets feeding around the cows, marsh harriers quartering the reeds, and teal, wigeon, lapwings, snipe, and green and wood sandpipers in and around the pools (although most obvious when flushed by the harriers). Best of all though were the four purple swamp-hens (aka gallinules) which worked their way across the marsh like large purple chickens, showing much more in the open than when Honeyguide has seen them here previously. And a patch of thistles by the farm attracted a charm of more than 80 goldfinches.



Paper wasps on nest (CG).

The complete circuit around the back of the marsh was again new to Honeyguide. An attractive walk, overlooking reedbeds and pools, we saw Mediterranean demoiselles and a confiding European pond terrapin. Russell, ferreting in the woodland, produced several fungi, but more interestingly what seemed to be the empty nests of trapdoor spiders, presumably a *Cteniza* species. Interesting, as this genus does not appear to have been recorded in the Balearics despite the occurrence of a couple of species in southern France, Corsica and Sardinia. Then as we approached the shore, some lentisc bushes supported half-a-dozen large, active paper wasp nests, and the leader's day was made complete by the appearance of a few crimson speckled moths.

The march back along the dunes and beach proved a bit of slog, largely as the sun was now shining fiercely and the temperature rising into the low thirties. Nevertheless, we kept our spirits up with nuns' farts of all sizes, more sand daffodils, Bath white, red admirals heading south over the land then heading back north once over the sea, and our first, welcome Egyptian vultures of the week.

While the minibus was being collected, the rest of the group enjoyed a very welcome cool drink in the beach bar, before heading to the picnic site for a rather late lunch under the pine trees. Then it was off to one of the most important archeological sites of the island – Torre d'en Gaumes. The primary reason for this visit was to see at first hand some of the amazing structures, thousands of years old, which contribute to Menorca's global archaeological significance. The panoramic views to the coast, and across to Mallorca, spoke volumes about the strategic significance of this location. But we certainly didn't ignore the wildlife which presented itself to us in spite of the fierce heat: Italian wall lizards basked everywhere, a Bath white appeared for those who had not seen the one earlier in the day, and a furry bee-fly relative, regaling under the name of *Villa hottentota*. And Sara, again in foraging mode, came upon the near-complete skeleton of a small bird, provisionally identified by David G as a robin.



Torre d'en Gaumes (CG).

Day 5 – 11 October: Cala Galdana, upper Algendar Gorge, Monte Toro

No pre-breakfast walk today, so it was straight out after breakfast, westwards to the resort of Cala Galdana. A couple of lofty look-out spots provided stunning views of the bay below, a 'chocolate-box' panorama, complete with incredibly deep blue water with beds of Neptune weed clearly visible. Good places to observe birds too, with Mediterranean shags at the foot of the cliff, and a peregrine which appeared on cue just as the leader said to watch out for it! A swallowtail rested conveniently in front of the photographers, and several *Gonocerus insidiator* bugs, from small nymphs to adults, were located on the lentisc leaves.

Heading to the far side of the bay, we then had a walk through the pine forests, accessed by means of a very sturdy set of wooden stairs. Although there were no birds to speak of in the woods, it provided an opportunity to search for fungi, and once again Jude's outstanding near vision (ie myopia) came up with another mini-delight, the wonderfully spiny cistus hedgehog beetles feeding and mating on the leaves of *Cistus albidus*. As we drove back through the town, an unscheduled stop was needed for all to watch an osprey circling over the cove.

The Algender Gorge, which reaches the sea at Cala Galdana, is one of the major topographic features of Menorca, the deepest and longest gorge on the island. Sadly, there is no continuous path down the gorge, although that is arguably a blessing for the Egyptian vultures that breed on the higher cliffs. Rather than walk up the lower section, we headed to the top of the gorge near Ferreries, and entered it via the delightful side gorge of Pas d'en Revull. A rocky path led us down, past numerous special plants, mostly finished flowering but several bearing name plates. Balearic endemic plants included *Sibthorpia africana* and *Viola stolonifera*, while other specialities included the half-familiar Mediterranean hart's-tongue fern *Asplenium sagittatum*.



Algender Gorge (CG).



Friar's cowl *Arisarum simorrhinum* (CG).

Down in the main gorge, among the orchards and fruit-trial areas, pools on the track were attracting thread-waisted wasps *Sceliphron spirifex*, collecting mud for their nests. A flowering patch of friar's cowl revealed both species *Arisarum vulgare* and *simorrhinum*, from the shapes of the spadix, and a colony of dog-sick slime mould was found on a dead grass stem. Although still warm, the day was by now getting cloudier; lunchtime was approaching and we were all looking forward to what turned out to be a highlight of the holiday. Lawrence's father has a fruit farm at the top of the Gorge, and a BBQ lunch there had been suggested – needless to say, we were happy to oblige! We arrived at the farm to be met by a smiling Lawrence and a huge table, adorned with bowls and plates of the wonderful food. More and more dishes of every sort were brought out to us, including apples and pomegranates freshly picked from the farm – he had catered for us all, including the vegetarians and non-pepper-eater, with the utmost generosity. We ate and drank, enjoyed the patchy sunshine, the views, the booted eagles and Egyptian vultures (as many as seven in the air at once), and each others' company for some considerable time.

Heading back to the van, we made a brief return to the Pas d'en Revull to pay homage to one of the rarest plants imaginable: *Lysimachia minoricensis*, albeit by now just a bunch of dead stems. But dead stems at what may be the only natural site for the species in the world...

On the way home, as we were passing Monte Toro, we decided to drive to the top to survey the island from its highest point. Unfortunately, a strong wind had sprung up, and low cloud and rain enveloped us, so the views were somewhat less than panoramic, although the north coastal sites where we were due to spend most of our time were at least visible. But views in the cloud are less than enticing, and we soon opted for a welcome cuppa in the café!

Before our evening meal was one of the events of many Honeyguide holidays which makes it a truly unique experience – a visit from the recipient of the conservation contribution which is part of everyone's holiday cost. Menorca is very fortunate to have GOB (*Grup Balear d'Ornitologia i Defensa de la Naturalesa*) working there – safeguarding the landscape by being alert to potential destructive development, offering rehabilitation to injured wildlife and educating school children in the wonders of their own island, among a host of other activities. Such breadth of activity encompasses part of the role of several different UK organisations and manages to achieve considerable success on a shoestring, with the support of only a small membership base and just eight paid staff, representing four full-time equivalent posts.

Montse Bau talked passionately about their work, in particular focusing upon the new project of 'Agronatural Farms', the project we wished our donation to go towards. Agronatural Farms is a pilot scheme to develop and restore environmentally sustainable farming practices, and to seek to ensure that produce from those farms attracts a favourable price. Very laudable and thus far attracting a lot of interest, including from other parts of Spain; it so enthused us that it led us to double our donation to €800 using money from the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust.

Honeyguide is still the only wildlife holiday company which has ever made any donation to GOB Menorca and their essential work. Indeed, it is still (to our knowledge) the only company which includes a conservation donation as part of the holiday price for every customer it takes on holiday and then invests those resources in conservation projects in the places we visit. Of course, with so much to do, so many battlefronts to fight on, and so few resources, there could always be the risk that nothing ever gets done properly. But here Montse's mantra comes in to play... 'step by step', making a small but significant difference at each step, such that the sum of those steps is very significant progress towards protecting and enhancing this jewel of the Mediterranean. Perhaps that is a lesson in humility many of us could learn and take inspiration from. It certainly seems to be working for Montse and GOB Menorca.

Day 6 – 12 October: Es Canutells, Cap de Cavallería, Binimel-là, Mahón

The pre-breakfast walk saw us visiting the nearby cove of Es Canutells. Only a short walk around the cove and along a previously unexplored stretch of the *Camí*, it produced several blue rock thrushes, a calling kingfisher, and a host of noisy semi-domesticated ducks. On the return drive, a hoopoe flew over the road, one of surprisingly few sightings during the week, while the usual stone curlews put on a great show, including for the photographers.



Cap de Cavallería (CG); *Arum pictum* (SG.)

First stop after breakfast was at Tirant. Unfortunately, the seasonal pools had not been filled by the recent rains, and waterbirds were few and far between – just single snipe and green sandpiper, and a flock of cattle egrets. Several adult *Carpocoris* shield bugs were spotted on the trackside vegetation, and for once, a Cetti's warbler was seen as well as heard.

Then to Cap de Cavallería, the long approach road gated to contain flocks of goats. As we progressed, we could see the increasing effect of salt spray and wind on the plant life, the bushes becoming more sculpted and the plants smaller and spicier. Here we were among the vegetable hedgehogs once again, and a short walk to the lighthouse and cliff edge enabled us to see some of them, albeit mostly now finished flowering, with the exception of the locally endemic form of rosemary and a few examples of *Arum pictum* just coming into flower. The sea and the cliffs were pretty much devoid of birds, but blue rock thrushes, linnets, stonechats and Thekla larks were obvious on and around the cliff-top rocks and bushes.

A short drive back to the cove at the narrowest point of the headland, where an Audouin's gull was on a rocky islet, and then it was into the beach car park for lunch, under the welcome shade of Aleppo pines. Continuing along the coast to Binimel-là, we found ourselves among the crowds – it was a public holiday and the weather was remarkably hot for the time of year. Nevertheless, the walk down to the beach produced our best views of Audouin's gull of the week, six European pond terrapins basking in the pool, and a Balearic spotted flycatcher (pale and with reduced streaking) in the tamarisks, a late migrant. A field of stink asters hosted numerous painted ladies and red admirals, along with a violet carpenter bee, while examination of a large joint-pine bush in copious fruit revealed numerous shield bugs, in all stages from eggs to adults. A little detective work back home showed them to be *Brachynema germari*, not previously recorded from the Balearics, according to <http://fauna-eu.org/>. And perhaps significantly, not a single individual was to be found on neighbouring, non-fruiting joint-pines.

For the last couple of hours of the afternoon, a quick trip to Mahón was in order. Although the public holiday meant that most shops and tourist attractions were closed, it was a good opportunity to take in the historic aspects of the capital, and the grandeur of the largest natural harbour in the western Mediterranean (the reason for its geopolitical significance, and frequent changes of allegiance, from Spanish to French and British, especially during the 18th century). And of course to enjoy a relaxing coffee in the still-glorious weather. Then back to Matchani Gran, and our second visit of the week to the Casino restaurant.

Day 7 – 13 October: Binidali Cove, Es Grau, Cales Coves

Our final full day was all too soon upon us – and determined to make full use of it most of the group assembled early for a pre-breakfast walk, again at Binidali, but this time heading down to the cove itself. The wind had turned southerly, and in consequence it was remarkably mild. A common sandpiper fed on the shoreline, while blue rock thrushes perched above, even giving snatches of song. Song thrushes were again numerous, and a black rat (filling the niche of squirrels on this squirrel-free island) was seen briefly scurrying through the branches of the pine trees. The ride home produced the best views of stone-curlews of the week, with at least six individuals seen, including one with an apparently deformed leg.

After breakfast, the ornamental lavenders and lantana in the garden were the focus of much insect interest: several long-tailed and Lang's short-tailed blues, and a violet carpenter bee, apparently lacking the usual purple sheen as a result of a coating of pollen and several dense patches of mites on its body.

Given the importance of Es Grau to the wintering waterbirds of Menorca, a return visit was in order, this time taking in the eastern end of the site. At the sluice, numerous large grey mullet were feeding, with common and red-veined darters and blue-tailed damselflies over the water. A single greenshank was wading in the salt pans, and out on the open lagoon the massed ducks, coot and grebes gave us plenty to search through; the dabchick aggregations also included at least three black-necked grebes. A great egret and grey heron repeatedly tussled over an apparently identical, but seemingly desirable, patch of shallow water, and on the far side another grey heron took several minutes to dispatch a very large eel.



Es Grau and great egret (CG).

In the salt-marshes we encountered a botanical mix of the familiar and not-so-familiar, most obvious being the large clumps of sharp rush, and patches of yellow-flowered golden-samphire and the pinky-purple of sea aster, here in its delicate south-eastern form, subspecies *pannonicus*. As sources of nectar, the flowers were attracting butterflies, especially clouded yellows and painted ladies, and several Hermann's tortoises again put in an appearance. From the *mirador*, the extensive views over the whole lagoon revealed just how many birds the site was home to, and this was only the start of the winter season – very likely there were many more to come.

Wandering on through the Aleppo pine woods, several fungi were fruiting well, including the appropriately named, deadly poisonous destroying angel. A little further on, a reddish bolete looked interesting, and so it proved when Sara eventually tracked it down as *Boletus spretus*, the first record for Menorca. And a walk back along the shore took us past more dune flora to the beach café, a coffee and loo stop, under the shade of old tamarisk trees, on which the bracket fungus *Inocutis tamaricis* was growing.



Autumn daffodil (CG); *Boletus spretus*, a new record for Menorca (SG).

After lunch around the car park, it was off to our final destination, a special and serene place – the necropolis of Cales Coves, a small bay with ancient burial chambers cut into the rocks: the perfect opportunity for a few moments' quiet – accompanied only by a robin's soliloquy, a friendly black cat, and the gentle splashing of the waves. The walk to and from the cove produced one of the highlights of the trip for many – the second spring in full swing. Autumn daffodils were everywhere, along with a few autumn squills, and the pink rivers of thousands of merenderas, snaking their way down the hillsides, burned themselves deep into our memories, lasting longer than the suntans.

And so to our last meal... as per Honeyguide tradition, each member of the group was asked for their best bits of the week:

- David G** Pink wax-scale insects, like mini-stars on the leaves of lentisc; and another 'mini-star', the hatchling tortoise at Sa Roca.
- Susi** Stone-curlews, of course, some of which eventually yielded themselves up for photography; and the glorious display of merenderas at Cales Coves.
- Peter** The atmosphere and ancient architecture at Torre d'en Gaumes; and the stunning beauty of crimson speckled moths.
- David S** As a relative novice to wildlife watching, everything we encountered, but Es Grau left a very strong impression, and especially the opportunity to see (and identify!) kites and eagles circling over the hills. Also the magnificent large wasp spiders.
- Ann** As this was her first wildlife tour, the opportunity to mix with such knowledgeable fellow travellers; but also the crimson speckled, and chance to look at big birds of prey in detail.
- Russell** The thistle field at Son Saura, with its array of 'big minibeasts': spiders, locusts, crickets and mantises; and those magical merenderas.
- Sara** So many wonderful things, but if pressed, the pepperpot earthstars, and the 'bug city' on fruiting joint-pine, both surprising and artistically satisfying.
- Jude** Seeing the second spring as it should be (so much better than on previous visits); the tortoises in all sizes; and the paper wasp nests at Son Bou, like lanterns on the bushes.
- Chris** The rivers of pink merenderas, and the cistus hedgehog beetles, quite unlike anything I have seen before. And of course the group, one of the best I have ever had the pleasure of leading, whose diverse interests led us to discover several species possibly new to the island, including a shield-bug, a trapdoor spider and a fungus. Another great reason to come on a Honeyguide holiday – discover new things and help contribute to the evidence base upon which effective conservation depends.



All named as holiday highlights: fruiting joint-pine bush with shield bugs *Brachynema germari*; cistus hedgehog beetles; large wasp spider (CG).

Day 8 – 14 October: Homeward bound...

Given the increasing heat and humidity yesterday, it was no surprise that our final night culminated in a huge thunderstorm and torrential downpours. But by first light, it had cleared away from our immediate environs, and we were left with a series of dramatic, turbulent cloudscapes as we packed the minibus, headed for the airport and away, a suitably dramatic end to an excellent holiday and antidote to the prospect of a winter to come.

WILDLIFE LISTS

KEY TO LOCALITIES: given only when seen at one or a very few locations.

MG Matchani Gran	SB Son Bou	CF Cap Favàritx
R Rafalet	TG Torre d'en Gaumes	CG Cala Galdana
EG Es Grau	T Tirant	AG Algendar Gorge
SR Sa Roca	CdC Cap de Cavalleria	EC Es Canutells
SSN Son Saura del Nord	BL Binimel-là	CC Cales Coves
B Binidali Cove	AL Addaia Lagoons	

BIRDS

Dabchick	AL; c200 EG	Yellow-legged gull	Frequent at sea
Black-necked grebe	AL (6); EG (3)	Rock dove/feral pigeon	Feral pigeons in most towns and villages; wild rock doves R; AL; AG
Great crested grebe	c10 EG	Woodpigeon	Occasional
Cory's shearwater	B	Collared dove	Common, especially around villages
Cormorant	EG; AL	Scops owl	MG
Mediterranean shag	Small numbers CG, CF, SB (on the sea)	Kingfisher	B; EC
Gannet	B	Hoopoe	MG; EC
Cattle egret	Feeding groups at SB, T and various inland locations while travelling	Skylark	Occasional migrants flying over
Little egret	EG, SB, AL	Thekla lark	Common
Great egret	EG (4), AL	Swallow	Small numbers moving south
Grey heron	Small numbers SB, AL, EG	Meadow pipit	B
Greater flamingo	EG	Tawny Pipit	CdC
Wigeon	10 EG; 10 SB	Grey wagtail	SB
Teal	C20 SB	White wagtail	B
Gadwall	c50 EG	Blue-headed wagtail	6 MG; T
Mallard	SB (many with signs of domesticity), AL, EG, BL, EC	Wren	AG
Shoveler	c20 EG	Robin	Very numerous throughout
Pochard	c200 EG	Whinchat	AL
Red-crested pochard	4 EG; SB	Stonechat	Widespread
Ferruginous duck	c20 EG	Redstart	AL
Tufted duck	c6 EG	Blue rock thrush	B; EC; R; CF
Red kite	Widespread across the island	Blackbird	Widespread in small numbers
Egyptian vulture	SB; T; AG	Song thrush	Migrants flying over regularly
Marsh harrier	2 SB; EG; SSN (4); MG	Cetti's warbler	Widespread, many in dry scrubland
Common buzzard	EG	Sardinian warbler	Widespread and common
Booted eagle	Widespread – the commonest large raptor	Blackcap	Widespread but not frequent
Osprey	AL; CG	Chiffchaff	SB
Common kestrel	Widespread	Melodious warbler	AL
Peregrine	CF; AL; AG	Goldcrest	SR
Red-legged partridge	MG	Balearic spotted flycatcher	BL
Moorhen	SB, EG; AL; BL	Great tit	Common
Coot	SB, EG; AL; BL	Raven	Widespread singly and in small groups
Purple swamp-hen	4 SB	Jay	SR
Stone-curlew	6 MG	Starling	Large flock SB
Kentish plover	CF	Spotless starling	EG
Lapwing	SB	House sparrow	Common around towns, villages and farms
Greenshank	AL; EG	Chaffinch	Widespread but scarce
Spotted redshank	EG	Greenfinch	Widespread
Common sandpiper	AL; B	Goldfinch	Flocks of up to 20 seen frequently; c80 SB
Green sandpiper	SB	Linnet	Flocks of up to 10 seen regularly
Wood sandpiper	SB	Corn bunting	Seen and heard throughout the island
Snipe	SB		
Audouin's gull	CF; CdC; BL		
Black-headed gull	EG		

MAMMALS				
Black rat Evidence everywhere under pines. Seen at B	Brown rat Dead, EC	Rabbit	Pine marten Scats only	Weasel SB
Lesser white-toothed shrew Dead EG	Algerian hedgehog Road casualties	Common pipistrelle MG	Kuhl's pipistrelle MG	Bottle-nosed dolphin B
REPTILES				
Hermann's tortoise	European pond terrapin SB, BL	Italian wall lizard	Moorish gecko	Turkish gecko MG
AMPHIBIANS				
Iberian water-frog SB		Stripeless tree-frog SB		
FISH				
Thick-lipped grey mullet EG	Eel EG	Cow bream <i>Sarpa salpa</i> R	Comber <i>Serranus</i> sp. R	
LEPIDOPTERA				
Butterflies				
Swallowtail	Cleopatra	Two-tailed pasha	Holly blue	
Large white	Wall brown incl. form <i>paramegera</i>	Lang's short-tailed blue	Small copper	
Small white	Speckled wood form <i>aegeria</i>	Long-tailed blue		
Bath white	Red admiral	Geranium bronze		
Clouded yellow	Painted lady	Common blue		
Macromoths				
Geometridae				
Vestal	Small dusty wave	Red-green carpet	Holm oak beauty	
Small Mediterranean emerald	Lime-speck pug	Striped twin-spot carpet	Willow beauty	
Portland ribbon wave	Coppery taupe	Dark fern	Yellow belle	
Small blood-vein	Garden carpet	Shaded beauty		
Sphingidae				
Hummingbird hawk-moth				
Arctiidae				
Crimson speckled		Pygmy footman		
Noctuidae				
Shuttle-shaped dart	Angle shades	Silver Y	Porter's rustic	Cream drab
Micromoths				
<i>Acalyptis minimella</i> mines on lentisc	<i>Duponchelia fovealis</i>	<i>Endotricha flammealis</i>	<i>Ethmia bipunctella</i>	
Bee moth	Rush veneer	Rusty-dot pearl		
OTHER INVERTEBRATES				
Dragonflies & Damselflies				
Lesser emperor	<i>Anax parthenope</i>	Common darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>	
Migrant hawk	<i>Aeshna mixta</i>	Mediterranean demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx haemorrhoidalis</i>	
Scarlet darter	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	Blue-tailed damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	
Red-veined darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombei</i>	Western willow emerald	<i>Lestes viridis</i>	
Grasshoppers & Crickets				
Egyptian locust	<i>Anacridium aegyptiacum</i>	Red-winged grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda miniata</i>	
	<i>Calliptamus barbarus</i>	Tree-cricket	<i>Oecanthus pellucens</i>	
	<i>Dociostaurus jagoi</i>	Mole-cricket	<i>Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa</i>	
Migratory locust	<i>Locusta migratoria</i>	Field cricket	<i>Gryllus campestris</i>	
	<i>Oedaleus decorus</i>		<i>Mogoplistes brunneus</i>	
Blue-winged grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda caerulescens</i>	Wood cricket	<i>Nemobius sylvestis</i>	
Mantises				
	<i>Ameles decolor</i>	Praying mantis	<i>Mantis religiosa</i>	
Termites				
<i>Reticulitermes lucifugus</i>				
True Bugs				
A brown shield-bug	<i>Carpocoris fuscispinus</i>	Fire-bug	<i>Pyrrhocoris apterus</i>	
Southern green shield-bug	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	Aphid bean gall on <i>Pistacia</i>	<i>Aploneura lentisci</i>	
A green shield-bug	<i>Acrosternum millierei</i>	Aphid twisted leaf gall on <i>Pistacia</i>	<i>Forda marginata</i>	
A green shield-bug on <i>Ephedra</i>	<i>Brachynema germari</i>	Pink wax scale-insect on <i>Pistacia</i> and <i>Solanum</i>	<i>Ceroplastes</i> sp.	
A squash bug on <i>Pistacia</i>	<i>Gonocerus insidiator</i>	Prickly-pear scale-insect	<i>Dactylopius coccus</i>	
A red-&-black ground bug	<i>Spilostethus pandurus</i>	Cottony cushion-scale	<i>Icerya purchasi</i>	
Beetles				
A big weevil with chevrons	<i>Coniocleonus nigrosuturatus</i>	Devil's coach-horse	<i>Ocyopus olens</i>	
A dung beetle	<i>Scarabaeus laticollis</i>	7-spot ladybird	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>	
A scarab beetle	<i>Thorectes balearicus</i>	22-spot ladybird	<i>Psyllobora vigintiduopunctata</i>	
Rhinoceros beetle	<i>Copris hispanicus</i>	Cistus hedgehog-beetle	<i>Di cladispa testacea</i>	
Large churchyard beetle	<i>Blaps gigas</i>	A leaf beetle	<i>Crioceris macilenta</i>	
Churchyard beetle	<i>Blaps lusitanica</i>	Balearic bloody-nosed beetle	<i>Timarcha balearica</i>	

Flies			
An owl-midge	<i>Clogmia albipunctata</i>	A robber-fly	<i>Machimus</i> sp.
Olive fruit-fly	<i>Bactrocera oleae</i>	A bee-fly	<i>Villa hottentota</i>
A gall on holm oak leaves	<i>Dryomyia lichtensteinii</i>		
Bees & Wasps			
Violet carpenter-bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>	A potter wasp	<i>Eumenes coarctatus</i>
Thread-waisted wasp	<i>Sceliphron spirifex</i>	Aster mining-bee	<i>Colletes halophilus</i>
White-tailed bumblebee	<i>Bombus lucorum</i>	Heather mining-bee	<i>Colletes succinctus</i>
Paper wasp	<i>Polistes gallicus</i>	A black, seed-eating ant	<i>Messor barbarus</i>
Honeybee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>		
Arachnids			
Balearic scorpion	<i>Euscorpius balearicus</i>	A jumping spider	<i>Carrhotus xanthogramma</i>
Garden spider	<i>Araneus diadematus</i>	A jumping spider	<i>Menemerus semilimbatus</i>
Humped garden spider	<i>Araneus angulatus</i>	A jumping spider	<i>Evarcha jucunda</i>
Cage-web spider	<i>Cyrtophora citricola</i>	A jumping spider	cf. <i>Sitticus distinguendus</i>
A large wolf-spider	<i>Lycosa narbonensis</i>	A trapdoor spider	cf. <i>Cteniza</i> sp.
Large wasp spider	<i>Argiope trifasciata</i>	A ground crab spider	cf. <i>Philodromus aureolus</i>
A jumping spider	<i>Heliophanus kochii</i>		



Three interesting jumping spiders. *Evarcha jucunda* (JG), *Menemerus semilimbatus* (CG) and possible *Sitticus distinguendus*, distinguished jumping spider (CG).

Centipedes			
A long-legged centipede	<i>Scutigera coleoptrata</i>		
Sea anemones			
Beadlet anemone	<i>Actinia equina</i>	Snakelocks anemone	<i>Anemonia viridis</i>
Worms			
A marine tube-worm	<i>Hydroides norvegica</i>		

PLANTS IN FLOWER			
<i>Ampelodesmus mauritanicus</i>			
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry-tree		SR
<i>Arisarum simorrhinum</i>			AG
<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	Friar's cowl		MG AG
<i>Artemisia caerulescens</i>			EG
<i>Artemisia gallica</i>			B
<i>Arum pictum</i>			CdC
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant reed		
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>			
<i>Asparagus albus</i>			
<i>Aster tripolium</i> ssp. <i>pannonicus</i>	Sea aster		EG
<i>Atriplex portulacoides</i>	Sea-purslane		SB AL EG
<i>Bellis sylvestris</i>	Large daisy		
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sea-rocket		SB EG BL
<i>Calamintha sylvatica ascendens</i>	Catmint		AG
<i>Carex otrubae</i>	False fox sedge		SB
<i>Centaurea aspera</i>	Rough star-thistle		BL
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Chicory		
<i>Clematis cirrhosa</i>	Maiden's bower		EG
<i>Colchicum filifolium</i>	Merendera		MG B CC
<i>Conyzanthus squamatus</i>			AL
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	Rock samphire		
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Bermuda grass		SB
<i>Dittrichia graveolens</i>			
<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	Stink aster		
<i>Ecballium elaterium</i>	Squirting cucumber		MG
<i>Erica multiflora</i>	Mediterranean heath		
<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	Sea spurge		BL EG

<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	Yellow horned-poppy	CC BL
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	
<i>Heliotropium europaeum</i>		MG TG
<i>Hyoseris radiata</i>		CdC
<i>Inula crithmoides</i>	Golden samphire	SB AL EG CC
<i>Juncus acutus</i>	Sharp rush	SB AL EG
<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i>	Phoenician juniper	SB
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	Hare's-foot grass	SB
<i>Leontodon tuberosus</i>		
<i>Limonium ferulaceum</i>		SB EG BL
<i>Limonium minutum</i>		CdC CF
<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	Sweet Alison	
<i>Lotus cytisoides</i>		SB
<i>Mentha pulegium</i>	Pennyroyal	SSN
<i>Narcissus obsoletus</i>	Autumn daffodil	MG B EG CC
<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	Sand daffodil	SB EG BL
<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	Pokeweed	AG
<i>Plantago crassifolia</i>		AL
<i>Plantago lagopus</i>		
<i>Polygonum maritimum</i>	Sea knotgrass	SB BL EG
<i>Polygonum salicifolium</i>		SB
<i>Prospero autumnale</i>	Autumn squill	CC
<i>Reichardia picroides</i>		CdC
<i>Reichardia tingitanus</i>		
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Rosemary	SR
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis var. palaui</i>		CdC
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's-broom	R
<i>Salsola kali</i>	Prickly saltwort	SB BL
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	Wild clary	BL
<i>Santolina magonica</i>	Menorcan chamomile	CdC
<i>Scabiosa maritima</i>		SB BL
<i>Scirpoides holoschoenus</i>	Round-headed club-rush	SB SSN BL
<i>Scirpus maritimus</i>	Sea club-rush	EG
<i>Smilax aspera</i>		
<i>Solanum bonariense</i>		CC
<i>Sonchus tenerrimus</i>		
<i>Spergularia media</i>	Greater sea-spurrey	AL
<i>Typha domingensis</i>	Lesser reedmace	SB
<i>Urginea maritima</i>	Sea squill	EG CdC CF
<i>Verbascum creticum</i>		BL

PLANTS IN FRUIT

<i>Allium commutatum</i>		B
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry-tree	SR
<i>Arum italicum</i>	Large cuckoo-pint	AD
<i>Asphodelus aestivus</i>	White asphodel	
<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>		MG
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>		
<i>Asparagus albus</i>		
<i>Beta maritima</i>	Sea-beet	CC
<i>Calicotome spinosa</i>	Spiny broom	
<i>Carlina corymbosa</i>		
<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	Greater celandine	AG
<i>Clematis flammula</i>		EG
<i>Conyza bonariensis</i>		
<i>Daucus hispanica</i>		
<i>Ephedra fragilis</i>	Joint-pine	EG BL
<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Sea-holly	SB EG BL
<i>Evax pygmaea</i>		CdC
<i>Ferula communis</i>	Giant fennel	
<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig	
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel	
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	
<i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i>	Prickly juniper	
<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i>	Phoenician juniper	
<i>Lonicera implexa</i>		
<i>Lysimachia minoricensis</i>		AG
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive	
<i>Orobanche hederæ</i>	Ivy broomrape	AG
<i>Panocratium maritimum</i>	Sand daffodil	SB EG
<i>Phillyrea angustifolia</i>		
<i>Phillyrea latifolia</i>		
<i>Phillyrea media var. rodriguezii</i>		CdC CF
<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	Pokeweed	AG
<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Aleppo pine	
<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Umbrella pine	B

<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Lentisc	
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	SR
<i>Punica granatum</i>	Pomegranate	B
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holm oak	
<i>Rhagadiolus stellatus</i>		
<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	Mediterranean buckthorn	
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Wild madder	
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's-broom	MG R AG
<i>Smilax aspera</i>		
<i>Solanum sodomaeum</i>	Apple-of-Sodom	
<i>Teucrium subspinosum</i>		
<i>Thapsia gymnesiaca</i>		B R
<i>Thymelaea hirsuta</i>		B
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort	
<i>Xanthium strumarium</i>	Cocklebur	EC EG

OTHER INTERESTING PLANTS

<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair fern	AG
<i>Arthrocnemum macrostachyum</i>		
<i>Asparagus horridus</i>		
<i>Asplenium onopteris</i>	Western black spleenwort	AG
<i>Asplenium sagittata</i>	Mediterranean hart's-tongue fern	AG
<i>Astragalus balearicus</i>		CdC CF
<i>Calystegia soldanella</i>	Sea bindweed	EG
<i>Capparis spinosa</i>	Caper	
<i>Ceterach officinalis</i>	Rustyback fern	
<i>Cistus albidus</i>		
<i>Cistus monspeliensis</i>		
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>		
<i>Crucianella maritima</i>		SB
<i>Digitalis dubia</i>	Dwarf foxglove	CdC
<i>Dorycnium fulgurans</i>		CdC CF
<i>Equisetum ramosissimum</i>		SB
<i>Equisetum telmateia</i>	Great horsetail	
<i>Euphorbia dendroides</i>	Tree spurge	
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Mediterranean field thistle	
<i>Launaea cervicornis</i>	Hedgehog lettuce	CdC CF
<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	Bay laurel	AG
<i>Limonium echioides</i>		CdC
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda buttercup	
<i>Polypodium cambricum</i>	Western polypody	EC
<i>Posidonia oceanica</i>	Neptune-weed	
<i>Salicornia ramossissimum</i>	Glasswort	SB AL EG CF
<i>Sarcocornia fruticosa</i>	Shrubby glasswort	SB AL EG
<i>Sarcocornia perennis</i>	Perennial glasswort	SB AL EG
<i>Sibthorpia africana</i>		AG
<i>Suaeda vera</i>	Shrubby sea-blite	EG AL
<i>Viola stolonifera</i>		AG

NOTABLE CULTIVATED PLANT SPECIES (INCOMPLETE)

<i>Agave americana</i>	
<i>Aptenia cordifolia</i>	
<i>Bougainvillea spectabilis</i>	
<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>	
<i>Ipomoea indica</i>	
<i>Lantana camara</i>	
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	
<i>Phytolacca arborea</i>	
<i>Plumbago auriculata</i>	
<i>Tecomaria capensis</i>	

LIVERWORTS

<i>Lunularia cruciata</i>	
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LICHENS

<i>Cladonia foliacea</i>	
<i>Evernia prunastri</i>	
<i>Ramalina siliquosa</i>	Sea ivory
<i>Xanthoria parietina</i>	Starburst lichen

SLIME MOULDS

<i>Mucilago crustacea</i>	Dog-sick slime-mould
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FUNGI

<i>Amanita virosa</i>	Destroying angel
<i>Auricularia auricula-judae</i>	Jew's ear
<i>Colletotrichum trichellum</i>	Brown patches on ivy leaves
<i>Coprinellus micaceus</i>	
<i>Coprinus</i> sp.	
<i>Bolbitius titubans</i>	
<i>Boletus cf. comptus</i>	
<i>Boletus cf. luridus</i>	
<i>Boletus spretus</i>	New to Menorca
<i>Inocutis tamaticis</i>	Tamarisk bracket
<i>Inocybe</i> sp.	
<i>Mutinus caninus</i>	Dog-stinkhorn
<i>Myriostoma coliforme</i>	Pepperpot earthstar
<i>Omphalotus olearis</i>	Jack o' lantern
<i>Panaeolus antillarum</i>	
<i>Septoria unedonis</i>	Strawberry-tree leaf spot
<i>Suillus bellini</i>	
<i>Tapinellus panuoides</i>	
<i>Xerocomus subtomentosus</i>	
<i>Xylaria longipes</i>	