

# Honeyguide

**WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS**

36 Thunder Lane, Thorpe St Andrew, Norwich NR7 0PX  
Telephone: 01603 300552 evenings & weekends  
www.honeyguide.co.uk E-mail: honeyguide@tesco.net



**Crete**  
**12 – 19 April 2005**

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**Holiday participants**

Dorothy Vincent	Oxford
Ruth Wootton	London
Basil Harley Annette Harley	Colchester
Ray Harley Ana Giulietti Harley	Brazil
Anne Shearcroft	Cambridge
Raymond Harrison	Surrey
Sue Smith Rosie Smith	Stroud Oxfordshire
Trevor Darby Maureen Darby	Hampshire
John Durdin	Norfolk
<b>Leaders</b>	
Ivan Nethercoat	Beverley
Chris Gibson	Harwich

Report by Ivan Nethercoat and Chris Gibson

*Illustrations by Rob Hume, except cover by Maureen Darby*

*Front cover: (clock-wise, from top) black-winged stilt, Italian man orchid, little crane, swallowtail butterfly, spiked star-of-Bethlehem, tree frog, Jerusalem sage, Egyptian grasshopper, hoopoe, Balkan green lizard, Bermuda buttercup, common vetch, clouded yellow butterfly.*

As with all Honeyguide holidays, £25 of the price of the holiday was put towards a conservation project, in this case for the lammergeier project of the Hellenic Ornithological Society (HOS), which is based in Athens but whose work covers the whole of Greece and its islands. The conservation contribution this year of £25 per person was supplemented by gift aid through the new Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust, leading to a total of €535 (£374). This brings Honeyguide's total contributions to HOS since the first Honeyguide holiday in Crete in 1995 to £5,319. A thank-you letter from HOS is at the end of this holiday report (*but not in this web version the report*).

The conservation contributions from all Honeyguide holidays totalled £33,330 at the end of 2004 and will be in the region of £38,000 by the end of 2005.

## Crete 12 – 19 April 2005

### ***Tuesday 12 April - the way there***

All were safely gathered in at Gatwick, in spite of some ‘terminal confusion’ (when we arrived, our expected flight didn’t exist!), and not even a further bout of airport mayhem, with unannounced switches to the luggage carousels, nor temperatures of only some 10°C could dampen our enthusiasm for the week ahead. As we travelled by coach to Plakias, a glorious sunset over the north coast, before we plunged deep into the gloom of the mountains, served to put us in holiday mood, aided and abetted on arrival by an excellent taverna meal.

### ***Wednesday 13 April - Plakias & Kotsiphou Gorge***

Following the long flight and the adjustment of our body clocks, this was an easy day with little minibus travel and a chance to orientate ourselves around our home for the next week. However for the early birds, a minibus drive along the bay allowed us to cover more ground before breakfast. A small river enters the sea at Plakias, and this is a favourite place to start. A lone little egret was fishing alongside a little ringed plover and a pied wagtail. This example of the British subspecies was a long way from home, but has frequently been seen by this bridge on previous Honeyguide trips.

Farther on, the rough ground by the beach is often home to other migrants and today we were greeted by a superb black-headed wagtail, fresh in from Africa and *en route* to the Balkans. From the fences, whinchats were hunting insects, resplendent in fresh breeding plumage, while the familiar but no less colourful goldfinches twittered away feeding on seeds from the roadside plants. Crested larks marked our path and sang from the dusty fields, and a little botanical exploration produced the first endemic of the trip, a splendid specimen of the Cretan wall lettuce (an unusual member of the bellflower family), growing out of the roadside kerb. All this under a bright sky alongside the Mediterranean: a good way to start the day!

Following a continental breakfast with some of the best bread to be found anywhere, we all set off through Plakias (checking out the sparrows – Italian not house) and up a road leading into the valley behind the town. After a few minutes we were strolling up a path alongside giant reeds and olive groves. Cetti’s warblers gave their indignant call at our presence while remaining extremely elusive. The roadside was a blaze of colour with yellow Jerusalem sage and Bermuda buttercup, red poppies, and a purple haze of viper’s-bugloss, shrubby sage and branched broomrape, while Ray discovered a patch of the minute (but attractive) endemic *Solenopsis minuta* ssp. *annua*.

Buzzards accompanied us as we wound our way up the path to the remains of a Venetian mill. Pied flycatcher, purple heron and green sandpiper were along the river, ravens and griffon vultures overhead and everywhere the songs of chaffinch and great tit. As the sun grew ever warmer, so the insects were spurred into action, including speckled wood (of the southern form), wall brown, holly blue, violet carpenter-bee, blue-winged grasshopper and several Egyptian locusts, posing well and displaying their distinctively striped eyes.

The mill is now a ruin, but imposing as it fends off the encroachment of nature. It rests in a narrow part of the valley, also the residence of blue rock thrush, the male making frequent trips from one pinnacle to another to sing out the boundary to his territory. Overhead a buzzard circled with a large Balkan green lizard dangling from its talons, our first reptile, dead but identifiable by default, and again there were masses of flowers including *Arum concinatum*, Cretan viper’s-grass and our first orchids, a few spikes of small-flowered tongue-orchid and Marengo orchid.

Once at the mill we doubled back part way and took the minibuses for a short drive up the hill to Mirthios, and a taverna aptly named Panorama. The view across the valley to Plakias and the sea is

glorious and a good lookout for birds. Today the wind kept the small ones down among the trees but a peregrine made a brief fly-past for a few keen-eyed diners.

Following lunch we made good use of the vehicles and headed further into the gorge. This is an area where the near-endemic Cretan arum grows below the wings of eagles and vultures. This gorge, the Kotsiphou, is much smaller than many on the island but still provides valuable updraughts of air for large birds, and shelter and crevices for plants. The arums were in good form right along the road. Another pied flycatcher waited for insects on a riverside perch, and we took the chance to explore a previously untravelled (by Honeyguide) road that took us behind the range of hills, through small villages and among wonderful scenery. The arum was extremely common here as were naked-man orchids. Leaving the vehicles to examine a fine specimen soon showed it to be merely one of very many growing just off the road. A distant but obliging pair of hoopoes perched in a tree and allowed everyone to get very good telescope views of this sometimes difficult species. Heavy skies and a cool wind then sent us back to the vehicles and the hotel, but not before the dramatic, sun-splashed cloudscape was captured on many a camera.



#### ***Thursday 14 April - Kourtaliotiko Gorge & Spili***

A very wet and windy night left a few of us hoping for migrant birds blown onto the coast, so despite the wet the early crew set off before breakfast full of hope. But the apparently ideal conditions didn't deliver: it was a very quiet morning in Plakias. A short drive on to Damnoni was equally disappointing, with the exception of a singing great reed warbler and an unusually confiding Cetti's warbler. As we headed back, a marsh harrier was struggling across the bay, on migration and looking very different to the views we tend to get across a reedbed in the UK. Here, perhaps, was a sign of things to come.

After breakfast the heavy clouds appeared to lift as we headed for Kourtaliotiko gorge. The entrance to the gorge allows good views across the mouth and also into the caves of nesting griffon vultures. Within minutes of arriving, Chris spotted two raptors over the ridge which obligingly came lower out of the clouds and flew in front of the cliff face revealing a distinctive white patch across the shoulders - a key feature of Bonelli's eagle, a rare bird across Europe and seldom seen in this gorge. These were followed by three high-flying red-footed falcons, and then a few minutes later John asked for help with a large raptor that was "not a griffon". Sure enough it certainly was not - very large with a falcon-like profile, it was a lammergeier, a star bird of Crete. Meanwhile the griffon vultures were busy feeding their young, nicely on view in the telescope, apparently unperturbed by rain that sent us scurrying back into the vehicles for shelter. All this and a superb male black-eared wheatear on the hillsides clothed in spiny surge and thorny burnet made it a very productive stop, interrupted only by a couple of sharp showers

A short drive farther on there are well-made steps down to a chapel in the bottom of the gorge. So with waterproofs donned and hats strapped down we descended. The route gave a great opportunity to see the flora of the gorge walls (several of the plants being endemic to the island) and a few of its feathered inhabitants. Wild cyclamen, turban buttercup, Cretan gorge comfrey and ricotia looked sad in the rain, but a male chukar was keen to tell us he was still king of his territory as we viewed him during a downpour from the cover of a shelter at the end of the path.

From the gorge, the back road to Spili climbs high over the hills to give impressive views back into the

canyon. Pictures of the view and a few associated orchids (including fan-lipped) were duly taken before heading to lunch by the fountains in Spili, for some involving *gyros*, the local fast food. From the car park, a largish raptor was struggling along in the wind, showing very distinctive white patches to the base of the primary feathers on the upper wing – a long-legged buzzard, albeit a deceptively dark-plumaged bird.

Then it was off to Spili Bumps, an unassuming name for an amazing place. What was once a quiet stop in the middle of nowhere is rapidly becoming a world famous site. Two other English groups were there plus a fifty-strong coach party from Australia! The floral display was as good as ever, but it was obvious that the extra pressure had resulted in some plants being damaged. Some twenty species of orchids were located in just a couple of hours, including *Orchis boryi*, few-flowered and naked-man in unimaginable numbers, along with a confusing array of *Ophrys* species, the leaders' nightmare! And there was plenty more as well, including a meadow full of the endemic red tulip *Tulipa doerfleri*.

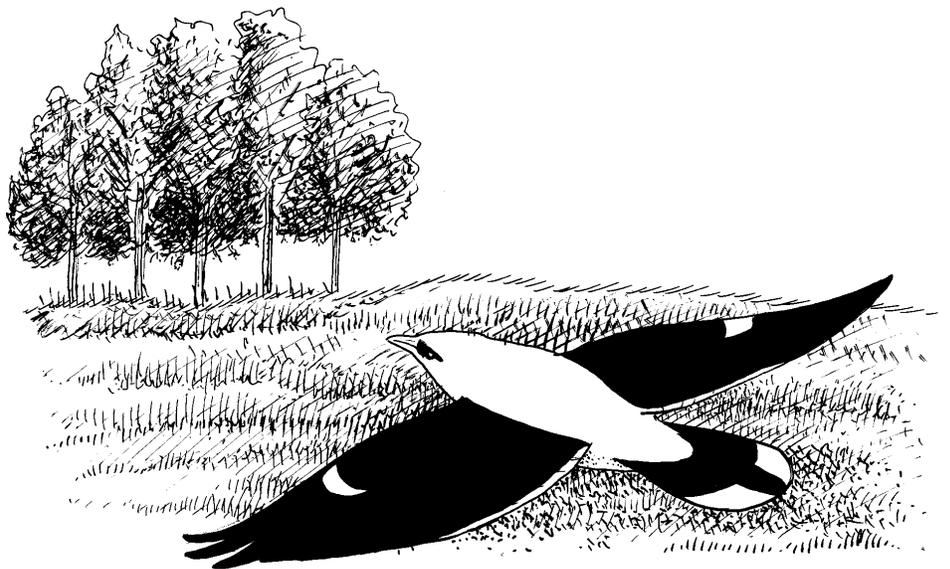
While the orchids were keeping botanists busy, the birders wandered off in search of avian distractions. Despite the wind there was a lot to see – skylark and short-toed larks tested our patience as they fed behind clumps of earth; flocks of sparrows and corn buntings gave a feel of what England's countryside was like a few generations ago; and among the familiar was the exotic and unusual with another superb black-eared wheatear, tawny pipits and, feeding in the open, a nightingale. So with a contented feeling we set off back to Plakias and another excellent taverna meal.

#### **Friday 15 April - Phaestos & Agia Triada**

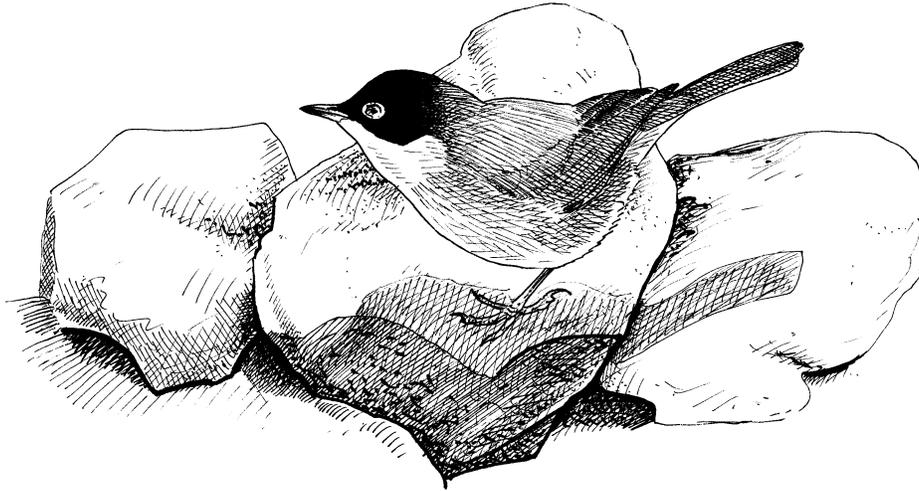
The drive to Phaestos takes one through some fine Cretan scenery and alongside the mountain range of Psiloritis, still draped in snow. Phaestos is the second most important Minoan site on Crete. Sited on a hill over a fertile plain it is a magnificent place and easy to see why it was a desired location. One can only guess what the wildlife on Crete was like when the palace was occupied some 4000 years ago.

A walk up to the site yielded few birds in the wind, apart from the shrill call of a red-throated pipit overhead. While it was not seen again, it was tantalising proof of migrants being around. A short coffee break allowed us to take in the panorama before us and also to catch up on migrating hirundines, including a red-rumped swallow, and a confiding southern comma, basking out of the breeze.

Just around the corner, a small road heads off to the Minoan summer palace of Agia Triada. This roadside offers splendid views across the plain and a host of flowers. As some of the group set off for the plants, a few stayed to try and see the red-rumped swallow better. Ruth's keen eyes spotted a couple of odd birds flying back to Phaestos – golden orioles! A great find, they obligingly sat in a tree giving clear views in the telescope. For a bright yellow and black bird they are extremely well camouflaged and this was a rare treat.



Our luck with obliging birds continued with a beautiful male Sardinian warbler (*below*) perching out in the open, its red eye ring clear to for all to see. A short distance on, an impressive dragon arum was close to being in full flower; under the shade of a tree this was going to be a few days away, but not so a magnificent eastern tongue-orchid, in full glory. The plants on the roadside verges were a patchwork of delights, but perhaps short-lived as further down it seemed as though maintenance crews were set to strip all roadside vegetation in an attempt to improve the road. We shall see what happened next year perhaps.



On reaching Agia Triada, lunch was overdue, among the fragrant and vibrant botanical glories of Cretan ebony and cistus, while a scarce swallowtail repeatedly perched in front of us. The site overlooks the wide fertile valley of the Geropotamus river, an area of intensive agriculture, and perhaps not unconnected the river itself was dry. A pleasant walk down to the river produced a cuckoo, calling and flying among the olives, where a spotted flycatcher was hawking insects, and buzzards and kestrels riding the winds with ease. There was rather little in flower, due to the use of herbicides, apart from the ubiquitous Bermuda buttercup and a few tassel hyacinths, although the number of dried stems of giant orchid were an indication of earlier-season riches.

#### ***Saturday 16 April - Agia Reservoir & Omalos Plateau***

Agia Reservoir is probably one of the best birdwatching sites on the island, an artificial lake that has matured nicely with reeds, gently sloping sides, mature trees on the edges and, for us, a dam with easy access and a new development of one of the best-placed tavernas in Crete. Walking up from the car park one is always greeted with a hive of activity: today it was the swallows and alpine swifts swooping down to drink among the many coot and little grebes. Closer inspection brought to light five garganeys, squacco herons, great reed warbler and sedge warbler; several huge Balkan terrapins basked in the sun; while black-winged stilt and little stint together on the edge of the dam spanned the entire range of wader form and function. The stars of this site however are the crakes: little crakes are often seen here, sometimes quite close. As it was we were there on a day with few other people and the crakes were very visible, one female in particular feeding on the edge of the water immediately below our feet! Amazing views and the best Honeyguide has had of these charismatic little birds.

Lunch was taken in the taverna overlooking the water. Our group overwhelmed the lone chef but it was important we were seen to be providing custom to them and that we were there because of the wildlife – ecotourism in action. The sound of tree frogs accompanied our meal for a while, a striking accompaniment to excellent Greek yoghurt and honey. Ivan managed to locate one for good views and photographs, while a male Balkan green lizard looked on.

28 kilometres farther along the road was our next destination: not far, but a world away in landscape contrast. The Omalos Plateau is a depression in the heart of the high mountains, twice the height of anything we have in the UK. The road snakes its way up via a series of hairpin bends, ending up among the forested mountain slopes before dropping down onto the plain of Omalos. Such plateaux are a distinctive part of the Cretan landscape, created through the faulting of massive blocks, an indication of the turbulent geological history of the area. Some, such as the famous Lassithi plateau farther east, are very fertile and intensively agricultural, while others like Omalos are more stony, used for grazing sheep, and remarkably rich in wildlife.

Omalos is also the route to the start of the well-known trek down the gorge of Samaria. A taverna perched on the edge of the gorge provides a great lookout across the void. The owner came over to us and redirected the telescope to rocks on the opposite side of the gorge, stepped back and proudly announced 'Kri Kri!'. This is the wild goat of Crete, possibly native or an ancient introduction, a very rare animal and seldom seen. Even when shown where it was, it was remarkably difficult to pick out, a combination of colour that blended into the rocks, with the realisation that the far side of the gorge was a lot farther away than it first appeared. But with perseverance, most managed to see it through the 'scope, a female which had given birth on the previous morning - a good view of a rare animal and a new addition to the Honeyguide list. While we were watching this, our first Scops owl called from distant trees further up the valley. Then to the high mountain plants, a scramble around the hillside produced some lovely sprawling, flowering patches of *Prunus prostrata*, while the most obvious species in flower, a mouse-eared chickweed, proved to be the endemic *Cerastium scaposum*.

By now it was late afternoon, and time to start the long drive home, but not before stopping on the plateau for the wild tulips, two species forming pink drifts in areas fenced off from the incessant attention of grazing sheep and goats. Woodlarks and tree pipits were in the hedges and scrub, and the very long-dead body of a badger lay on the road. Striking a blow for British eccentricity, Basil realised it may contain things of interest for a colleague of his back home. Wielding the corpse in a manner reminiscent of our ancient ancestors and bringing it back down to earth with a thump he disturbed several beetles from their active recycling duties, and popped them into a pot for identification on distant shores. Whether these will ever be ticked again by subsequent Honeyguide groups is perhaps doubtful but they will provide an interesting addition to our list of things seen on the island!

### ***Sunday 17 April - Moni Preveli & free half day***

First stop today was Souda, a couple of kilometres west of Plakias, at the mouth of a small stream. The stream may be small, but it clearly modifies the environment sufficiently to allow the establishment of one of the really special plants of Crete, the Cretan palm. Until recently considered to be endemic, this distinctive palm with squat, often branched trunks gives a strong indication of one reason for Crete's botanical richness – it is at the crossroads of three continents.

Next, back through Plakias to Preveli. This is a special place. If you are of a certain age then its association with the war makes it a fascinating place to visit. For the naturalist it is also a place of tremendous interest and always holds the prospect of something extraordinary. The monastery where British soldiers were hidden before escaping the German army in submarines is placed on a south-facing headland covered in scrub, where the ground gives way to a small valley in which birds can find food and shelter.

Not only is the headland a good site but the road up to the monastery passes alongside a river with well-vegetated banks of giant reed, plane and storax trees (the last in full, beautiful flower), before passing the old monastery. A quick stop in a calm corner, out of the fierce wind, by the old monastery was interesting botanically, but quiet for birds.

Moving out to the headland, the wind grew ever stronger. The sky which had dawned clear was

beginning to develop a yellow smudge. The hoped-for small birds were apparently absent, keeping deep in cover due to the strength of the wind, and as we progressed it soon became clear that we were not wanted on this path as the farmer had blocked the way. On the way back we waited by a calm area with mature trees to see if the flycatchers had also found this site: the headland is an area where they are often found, and while we had seen several pied flycatchers no collareds had yet been seen on the trip. Luck was on our side as after a few minutes watching bare branches a superb, smart male collared flycatcher appeared, perched for a good telescope view before disappearing from view again.

By now the weather was also turning cool and clouds were obscuring the hilltops: the headland was not the place to be. A retreat to the calmer area by the river and alongside our lunchtime taverna was called for. By the time we reached the taverna and had set off for a walk along the river it became clear these were not clouds at all but was in fact a huge dust storm blown over from Africa. It was so fine it was impossible to feel or see close up except for the fact that our mouths dried up. The sky was yellow, visibility was reduced to a few hundred metres, and the light from the sun was so heavily filtered that the disc of the sun appeared blue. Moreover, its strength was so subdued that it was possible to look at it through the 'scope (don't try this at home!) and see a large sun-spot. In the river two black-headed wagtails appeared and we were left wondering what else was being blown across on this strange and seriously dramatic weather phenomenon. Dust storms are regular events on the island, although the first time such a storm had coincided with a Honeyguide trip, and this was clearly a big one – headline news on the local TV that night.

After a good lunch at the taverna we split into two groups, shoppers and explorers. Unfortunately, the dust storm got worse and while we explored some interesting areas the birds were very quiet, apart from numerous swallows feeding along the ground as their airborne insect food had been forced low down by the dust. Meanwhile the shoppers returned to Plakias and were treated to an amazing sight of electric-blue waves crashing on the beach amid the murk.

Later that afternoon, the dust storm was still very dense but overhead the distinctive sounds of incoming bee-eaters could be heard. But seeing them was impossible, and we resigned ourselves to admiring a woodchat shrike instead, although Ann on a solitary walk was lucky enough to see a troop of twenty or more glossy ibises heading in from the sea. And despite our world being bathed in yellow, the botanists met up for an exploration of the local dunes, finding a diverse mix of the familiar (sea spurge and sea-rocket), the attractive (*Silene colorata* and sea medick), and the endemic (a large patch of the grape-hyacinth *Muscari spreitzenhoferi*).

The evening meal was in a very rural taverna just beyond the Kotsiphou gorge. Here the food is chosen direct from the kitchen but as we were unsure we opted for a selection of everything, which was very well received. One of the local foods served was 'onions from the mountains'. These small objects did indeed look like onions but tasted, at least to me, very bitter and not at all onion-like. Chris did some investigation on our return and found out that one of the local foods is mountain onions, or wild tulip bulbs - the same species we had been admiring at Spili.

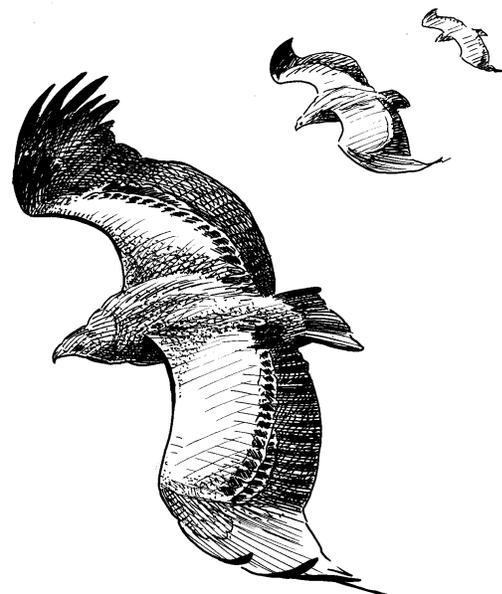
### **Monday 18 April - Frangocastello & Imbros Gorge**

At 7am it was still 'misty' but noticeably thinner than yesterday. Through the dust the sun was clearer and from the beach it felt as though we could see the edge of the cloud. At 'egret bridge' things seemed pretty much as normal but farther along the beach it became clear that the dust cloud had carried with it numerous yellow wagtails. Blue-, black- and grey-headed were all feeding among the low vegetation and all in wonderful plumage. In among them a lone red-throated pipit appeared, with a fine red throat too, a good bird and satisfying finally to see one, after having only heard one earlier at Phaestos. By breakfast, the dust had all but gone and we were left with a bright, calm morning, only the cars and windows witness to our amazing African encounter. But it will not be forgotten, not least by those whose camera, binoculars and lungs were penetrated, nor those whose photos from the day before still

bear a strong yellow cast. For those who doubt the drama of this event, simply access the following website for a series of images of the day: <http://www.explorecrete.com/various/sahara-crete.htm>

Frangocastello lies to the west of Plakias on a large plain. Getting there means taking a delightful road through small villages up steep hills and along a superb stretch of coastline. Thirteen griffon vultures (*right*) greeted us as we left Plakias behind and headed on with the sea on our left and mountains on our right. A short stop along the way for wild lupins also allowed us to see another broomrape, the dramatic purple *Orobanche lavandulacea*, a very obliging Erhard's wall lizard and several new butterflies, including dappled white and Lang's short-tailed blue.

As the road approached our destination a wonderful male Montagu's harrier drifted in over the sea and on up through a mountain pass via our vehicles. By the time we reached Frangocastello the wind had returned with some force. Stopping at a quieter part of the plain proved a blustery experience but did allow us to see several dragon arums in full flower. Tawny pipits and short-toed larks were keeping low down among the scrub and along the road another excellent black-eared wheatear showed very well alongside the bus.



A walk along the plain from the castle was quiet for birds except for seven squacco herons flying over the sea, apparently arguing as to which bit of beach was best to land on. The startling white wings against a deep blue sea in bright sunlight was a most spectacular sight. Nearby Chris disturbed a quail from its hiding place among the scrub. That was a rare event but what was more remarkable is that it was disturbed from the same place as on the previous year's Honeyguide trip!

After lunch we headed to the Imbros Gorge in the hope of some shelter and a Bonelli's eagle or two. The road alongside the gorge is a spectacular drive full of hairpin bends and steep climbs that give a fantastic view back down to the wide plain of Frangocastello. As we got into the wooded area toward the top of the gorge, we came to one probably the best café on the island - a polished wood cabin-style structure, perched precariously on the edge of the gorge. The views were spectacular, and the owner only too pleased to show off his military collection and exchange stories of the war (having ascertained we were not German - some memories persist despite decades of European unity).

This was our last new venue of the trip and our turning point before heading home. As we were getting ready to go a pair of Bonelli's eagles flew down the gorge below the skyline giving wonderful views and effectively saying goodbye.

The Gio Mar got the vote for best taverna of the week, and so we returned there for our last meal. A table outside was full of warmth and cheer despite the blustery weather clawing at the windbreak behind us. The food as always was wonderful, and provided the ideal accompaniment to our collective reflections on the many and varied high points of a splendid holiday.

### ***Tuesday 19 April - the way home...***

As ever on these trips, Plakias was calm and bathed in sunlight for our departure. The coach retraced its route back to Heraklion and confirmed the fact that we had spent our week in one of the most attractive parts of the island. Thanks for your good company, your stories and your enthusiasm. Thanks to you the Hellenic Ornithological Society is 500 Euros better off to help keep Crete the way we remember it.

**Ivan & Chris**

**BIRD LIST CRETE****12-19 April 2005**

<b>Little grebe</b>	20+ Agia reservoir
<b>Mediterranean shearwater</b>	3 seen very distant from Plakias beach
<b>Squacco heron</b>	Flock of seven in off the sea at Frangocastello on 18 <sup>th</sup> ; 1 perched in tree at Venetian Bridge, Prevelli; 2 at Agia
<b>Little egret</b>	Single bird at Plakias river most of the week; Agia
<b>Grey heron</b>	1 reported at Giorgiopoulos, seen from the car
<b>Purple heron</b>	1 at Plakias, disturbed from the river on Mirthios footpath; 1 perched in trees by Venetian bridge en route to Moni Prevelli
<b>Glossy ibis</b>	20+ flew in off the sea during the dust storm
<b>Mallard</b>	A few at Agia
<b>Garganey</b>	c 6 at Agia
<b>Shoveler</b>	A few at Agia
<b>Wigeon</b>	1 at Agia
<b>Pochard</b>	1 at Agia
<b>Lammergeier</b>	One bird seen well at Kourtaliotiko
<b>Griffon vulture</b>	Seen regularly over hills. Birds on nest with young at southern end of Kourtaliotiko Gorge
<b>Marsh harrier</b>	One at Plakias on 13 <sup>th</sup> ; female at Agia
<b>Montagu's harrier</b>	1 male over the road very close just before Frangocastello, continued flying over the mountains
<b>Bonelli's eagle</b>	Pairs in the Kourtaliotiko and Imbros Gorges
<b>Buzzard</b>	Common and widespread
<b>Long-legged buzzard</b>	1 over Spili
<b>Kestrel</b>	Common and widespread
<b>Red-footed falcon</b>	3 over Kourtaliotiko Gorge
<b>Peregrine</b>	1 from taverna in Mirthios
<b>Chukar</b>	1 at Kourtaliotiko; also seen behind Kotsiphou
<b>Quail</b>	1 flushed from undergrowth at Frangocastello (almost exactly the same place as last year!)
<b>Little crane</b>	Several at Agia reservoir
<b>Moorhen</b>	Several at Agia; pair along road to Damnoni
<b>Coot</b>	Many at Agia reservoir
<b>Black-winged stilt</b>	1 at Agia
<b>Little ringed plover</b>	Plakias; Agia
<b>Wood sandpiper</b>	1 heard at Agia
<b>Green sandpiper</b>	1 behind Plakias
<b>Common sandpiper</b>	Plakias beach and river
<b>Spotted redshank</b>	1 at Agia
<b>Redshank</b>	1 at Frangocastello
<b>Little stint</b>	1 at Agia
<b>Yellow-legged gull</b>	Common and widespread
<b>Black-headed gull</b>	Agia
<b>Rock dove</b>	Several apparently wild birds at Kotsiphou Gorge
<b>Wood pigeon</b>	Seen regularly below Mirthios
<b>Collared dove</b>	Common and seen most days in ones and twos
<b>Scops owl</b>	Heard above Samaria
<b>Cuckoo</b>	The only sighting was of one from Agia Triada flying among fields in the valley below
<b>Swift</b>	Seen in good numbers each day
<b>Alpine swift</b>	Seen most days often giving very good views at low level
<b>Kingfisher</b>	1 at Plakias
<b>Bee-eater</b>	Heard over Plakias, during dust storm
<b>Hoopoe</b>	Hard to find, with just two birds behind Kotsiphou. Reported to be breeding in the valley behind the hotel along the footpath to Mirthios

<b>Short-toed lark</b>	A few at Spili and Frangocastello
<b>Crested lark</b>	Common and widespread
<b>Skylark</b>	Elusive small flock of c 15 birds at Spili Bumps
<b>Woodlark</b>	Spili and Omalos
<b>Sand martin</b>	Several at Agia
<b>Crag martin</b>	Regular in Kourtaliotiko and Kotsiphou gorges
<b>Swallow</b>	Many flocks each day passing through
<b>Red-rumped swallow</b>	Good views of one bird at Moni Prevelli
<b>House martin</b>	Many hundreds passing through
<b>Tree pipit</b>	Sightings become more common throughout the week
<b>Red-throated pipit</b>	One heard at Phaestos; one seen well with yellow wagtails at Plakias after the dust storm
<b>Tawny pipit</b>	Spili and Plakias
<b>Yellow wagtail</b>	Blue-headed, Black-headed and Grey-headed males at Plakias
<b>White &amp; pied wagtail</b>	White at Kourtaliotiko; male pied at river mouth at Plakias. This seems to be a regular spot for this subspecies
<b>Wren</b>	Heard occasionally throughout the week
<b>Nightingale</b>	1 at Spili Bumps
<b>Whinchat</b>	Several at Plakias after rain and on reeds at Agia
<b>Stonechat</b>	Seen well most days
<b>Wheatear</b>	4 at Frangocastello, individuals elsewhere
<b>Black-eared wheatear</b>	1 in Kourtaliotiko, 2 at Moni Prevelli, 1 at Frangocastello
<b>Blue rock thrush</b>	A pair in Kourtaliotiko Gorge; Kotsiphou Gorge, and Moni Prevelli
<b>Blackbird</b>	Common and widespread
<b>Cetti's warbler</b>	Regularly heard singing but rarely seen. 1 seen very well after very heavy rain at Damnoni
<b>Sedge warbler</b>	Several at Agia
<b>Reed warbler</b>	1 at Damnoni
<b>Great reed warbler</b>	One at Damnoni, one at Agia
<b>Sardinian warbler</b>	Common and widespread
<b>Blackcap</b>	1 singing in Spili car park, female at Souda
<b>Wood warbler</b>	1 at Moni Prevelli
<b>Chiffchaff</b>	1 at Souda
<b>Goldcrest</b>	Imbros Gorge
<b>Spotted flycatcher</b>	Only 3 sightings
<b>Pied flycatcher</b>	Mirthios and Moni Prevelli
<b>Collared flycatcher</b>	Only 1 bird seen this year, a male at Moni Prevelli
<b>Blue tit</b>	Common and widespread
<b>Great tit</b>	Common and widespread
<b>Golden oriole</b>	Excellent views of two males at Phaestos
<b>Woodchat shrike</b>	Singles at Plakias
<b>Jay</b>	One seen in pines along the road toward the top of the Imbros Gorge road
<b>Chough</b>	Distant views at Samaria gorge
<b>Jackdaw</b>	Common in gorges
<b>Hooded crow</b>	Common and widespread
<b>Raven</b>	Seen in every gorge and often during journeys
<b>Italian sparrow</b>	Common and widespread
<b>Spanish sparrow</b>	Seen occasionally
<b>Chaffinch</b>	Common and widespread
<b>Greenfinch</b>	Common and widespread
<b>Goldfinch</b>	Common and widespread
<b>Serin</b>	Plakias
<b>Linnet</b>	A few birds at Spili only
<b>Cirl bunting</b>	1 singing briefly behind Plakias. Seen well behind Kotsiphou
<b>Ortolan bunting</b>	One at Spili and another seen west of Plakias
<b>Corn bunting</b>	Scarcer than previous years: none at Plakias, but a large flock at Spili

## PLANT LISTS

The following list comprises the more obvious plants seen and identified during the week.

**Key and nomenclature:** Latin names of plants generally follow those used in *Flora of the Cretan Area* (Turland *et al.* 1993); any alternative names in common usage are given in brackets. English names are given only where one is in general use. Localities are not given: special plants in special places are mentioned in the text.

\* Endemic to Crete

# Introduced and not native to Crete and cultivated or planted species

## FERNS AND ALLIES

<i>Ceterach officinarum</i>	Rustyback Fern
<i>Cheilanthes acrosticta (maderensis)</i>	
<i>Equisetum ramosissimum</i>	
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken
<i>Selaginella denticulata</i>	Mediterranean Club-moss

## CONIFERS

### **Cupressaceae - Cypress Family**

<i>Cupressus sempervirens horizontalis</i>	Cypress
<i>C. sempervirens sempervirens</i>	Funeral Cypress
<i>Juniperus oxycedrus ssp. macrocarpa</i>	

### **Pinaceae - Pine Family**

# <i>Araucaria araucana</i>	Norfolk Island Pine
<i>Pinus brutia</i>	

## FLOWERING PLANTS

### Dicotyledons

#### **Aceraceae - Maple Family**

*Acer sempervirens*

#### **Aizoaceae - Mezembryanthemum Family**

# *Carpobrotus edulis* Hottentot Fig

#### **Anacardiaceae - Pistachio Family**

*Pistacia lentiscus* Mastic Tree  
*P. terebinthus* Turpentine Tree

#### **Apiaceae - Carrot Family**

*Crithmum maritimum* Rock Samphire  
*Daucus carota* Wild Carrot  
*Eryngium campestre* Field Eryngo  
*Ferula communis* Giant Fennel  
*Foeniculum vulgare* Fennel  
*Lagoecia cuminoides*  
*Oenanthe pimpinelloides* Corky-fruited Water-dropwort  
*Pseudorhiza pumila*  
*Scandix pecten-veneris* Shepherd's Needle

*Smyrniium perfoliatum* Perfoliate Alexanders  
*Tordylium apulum* Mediterranean Hartwort

**Apocynaceae - Oleander Family**

*Nerium oleander* Oleander

**Araliaceae - Ivy Family**

*Hedera helix* Ivy

**Asteraceae - Daisy Family**

*Anthemis chia*  
*Anthemis rigida* ssp. *rigida* Rayless Chamomile  
*Asteriscus (Pallenis) spinosus*  
*Bellis annua* Annual Daisy  
*Bubonium (Astericus) aquaticum* Yellow Sea Aster  
*Calendula arvensis* Field Marigold  
*Carlina corymbosa*  
*\*Centaurea idaea*  
*Chrysanthemum coronarium* Crown Daisy  
*Chrysanthemum segetum* Corn Marigold  
*\*Crepis cretica*  
*Crupina crupinastrum*  
*Dittrichia viscosa*  
*Filago (Evax) pygmaea*  
*F. pyramidata* Broad-leaved Cudweed  
*Galactites tomentosa* Mediterranean Thistle  
*Geropogon (Tragopogon) hybridus*  
*Helichrysum (stoechas* ssp.) *barrelieri* Curry-plant  
*Leontodon tuberosus*  
*Notobasis syriaca*  
*\*Onopordum bracteatum* ssp. *creticum* Shrubby Cudweed  
*Phagnalon graecum*  
*Picnomon acarna*  
*Ptilostemon chamaepeuce*  
*Reichardia picroides*  
*Scorzonera cretica* Cretan Viper's-grass  
*Senecio vulgaris* Groundsel  
*Silybum marianum* Milk Thistle  
*Tolpis barbata*  
*Tragopogon sinuatus (porrifolius)* Salsify

**Berberidaceae - Barberry Family**

*Berberis cretica*

**Boraginaceae - Borage Family**

*Anchusa hybrida (undulata)*  
*A. italica (azurea)* Large Blue Alkanet  
*Borago officinalis* Borage  
*Cerinthe major* Honeywort  
*Cynoglossum columnae*  
*C. creticum* Blue Hound's-tongue  
*Echium angustifolium* Narrow-leaved Bugloss  
*E. arenarium*  
*E. italicum* Pale Bugloss  
*E. plantagineum* Purple Viper's-bugloss

*Myosotis incrassata*  
*Onosma graecum*  
*Symphytum creticum* (*Procopiana cretica*)

Golden-drops  
Cretan gorge comfrey

**Brassicaceae - Cabbage Family**

*Aethionema saxatile*  
*Arabis verna*  
*Aubrieta deltoidea*  
*Biscutella didyma*  
*Brassica nigra*  
*Cakile maritima*  
*Capsella bursa-pastoris*  
*Erophila verna*  
*Eruca sativa*  
*Erucaria hispanica*  
*Hirschfeldia incana*  
*Matthiola tricuspidata*  
*\*Ricotia cretica*  
*Sinapis arvensis*

Burnt Candytuft  
Spring Rock-cress  
Aubrieta  
Buckler Mustard  
Black Mustard  
Sea-rocket  
Shepherd's-purse  
Whitlow-grass

Hoary Mustard  
Three-horned Stock  
Ricotia  
Charlock

**Cactaceae - Cactus Family**

# *Opuntia ficus-barbarica* (*O. ficus-indica*)

Prickly Pear

**Campanulaceae - Bellflower Family**

*Campanula erinus*  
*\* Petromarula pinnata*  
*\*Solenopsis minuta* ssp. *annua* (*Laurentia gasparrinii*)

Cretan Wall Lettuce

**Capparaceae - Caper Family**

*Capparis spinosa*

**Caryophyllaceae - Pink Family**

*Arenaria muralis*  
*Cerastium comatum*  
*\*C. scaposum*  
*Herniaria hirsuta*  
*Petrorhagia velutina* (*Kohlrauschia velutina*)  
*Silene colorata*  
*S. gallica*  
*S. noctiflora*  
*S. vulgaris*

Small-flowered Catchfly  
Night-flowering Catchfly  
Bladder Campion

**Chenopodiaceae - Spinach Family**

*Atriplex halimus*

Shrubby Orache

**Cistaceae - Rockrose Family**

*Cistus (incanus ssp.) creticus*  
*C. salvifolius*  
*Fumana thymifolia*  
*Tuberaria guttata*

Cretan Cistus  
Sage-Leaved Cistus  
Thyme-leaved Fumana  
Spotted Rock-rose

**Clusiaceae – St John's-wort Family**

*Hypericum empetrifolium* ssp. *empetrifolium*

Shrubby St. John's-wort

**Convolvulaceae - Bindweed Family**

*Convolvulus althaeoides*

Mallow-leaved Bindweed

**Crassulaceae - Stonecrop Family***Crassula alata**Sedum litoreum*\**S. praesidis**S. rubens**Umbilicus parviflorus*

Small-Flowered Navelwort

**Dipsacaceae - Scabious Family***Knautia dipsacifolia***Ericaceae - Heather Family***Arbutus unedo*

Strawberry-tree

*Erica arborea*

Tree-heath

**Euphorbiaceae - Spurge Family***Euphorbia acanthothamnus*

Greek Spiny Spurge

*E. characias*

Mediterranean Spurge

*E. dendroides*

Tree Spurge

*E. helioscopia*

Sun Spurge

*E. paralias*

Sea Spurge

# *Ricinus communis*

Castor Oil Plant

*Mercurialis annua*

Annual Mercury

**Fabaceae - Pea Family**# *Acacia* spp.

Mimosa

*Anagyris foetida**Anthyllus hermanniae**Anthyllus vulneraria* ssp. *rubriflora*

Red Kidney Vetch

*Astragalus angustifolius**Bituminaria (Psoralea) bituminosa*

Pitch Trefoil

*Calicotome villosa*

Hairy Thorny Broom

# *Cercis siliquastrum*

Judas Tree

*Ceratonia siliqua*

Carob Tree

*Coronilla scorpioides*

Scorpion-vetch

\* *Ebenus cretica*

Shrubby Sainfoin (Cretan Ebony)

*Genista acanthoclada**Hymenocarpus circinnatus*

Disk Trefoil

*Lathyrus setifolius**Lotus halophilus**L. peregrinus**Lupinus micranthus*

Hairy Lupin

*Medicago arabica*

Spotted Medick

*M. disciformis**M. littoralis**M. lupulina*

Black Medick

*M. marina*

Sea Medick

*M. orbicularis*

Large Disk Medick

*M. polymorpha*

Toothed Medick

*Melilotus sulcatus**Onobrychis aequidentata**O. caput-galli*

Cock's-comb Sainfoin

*Ononis reclinata*

Small Rest-harrow

*O. viscosa**Robina pseudoacacia*

False acacia

*Securigera (Coronilla) cretica*

Cretan Crown Vetch

<i>S. securidaca</i>	
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom
<i>Tetragonolobus purpureus</i>	Asparagus Pea
<i>Trifolium angustifolium</i>	
<i>T. campestre</i>	Hop Trefoil
<i>T. nigrescens</i>	
<i>T. resupinatum</i>	Reversed Clover
<i>T. stellatum</i>	Starry Clover
<i>T. tomentosum</i>	Woolly Trefoil
<i>T. uniflorum</i>	One-Flowered Clover
<i>Trigonella balansae</i>	
<i>Tripodion (Anthyllis) tetraphyllum</i>	Bladder Vetch
<i>Vicia bithynica</i>	Bithynian Vetch
<i>V. hybrida</i>	Hairy Yellow Vetchling
<i>V. lathyroides</i>	Spring Vetch
<i>V. lutea</i>	Yellow Vetch
<i>V. sativa</i>	Common Vetch
<i>V. villosa</i>	Fodder Vetch
<b>Fagaceae - Oak Family</b>	
<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	Kermes Oak
<b>Fumariaceae - Fumitory Family</b>	
<i>Fumaria macrocarpa</i>	
<b>Gentianaceae - Gentian Family</b>	
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-wort
<i>Centaurium maritimum</i>	Yellow Century
<i>C. pulchellum</i>	Lesser Century
<b>Geraniaceae - Geranium Family</b>	
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Stork's-bill
<i>E. gruinum</i>	Long-beaked Stork's-bill
<i>E. malacoides</i>	
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill
<i>G. lucidum</i>	Shining Crane's-bill
<i>G. molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill
<i>G. purpureum</i>	Little Robin
<i>G. rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved Crane's-bill
<b>Lamiaceae - Mint Family</b>	
<i>Ballota pseudodictamnus</i>	
<i>Coridothymus (Thymus) capitatus</i>	Shrubby Thyme
<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	Henbit Dead-nettle
<i>Lavandula stoechas</i>	French Lavender
<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	White Horehound
<i>Mentha longifolia</i>	
<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	Jerusalem Sage
* <i>P. lanata</i>	
<i>Prasium majus</i>	
<i>Salvia fruticosa</i>	Shrubby Sage
<i>S. verbenaca</i>	Wild Clary
<i>S. viridis</i>	
<i>Satureja(Micromeria) nervosa</i>	
<i>S. thymbra</i>	Savory

*Sideritis curvidens*  
\**S. syriaca* ssp. *syriaca*

*Stachys cretica*  
*S. spinulosa*

\**Scutellaria sieberi*  
*Teucrium microphyllum*

**Linaceae - Flax Family**

*Linum arboreum* Tree Flax  
*L. bienne* Pale Flax  
*L. strictum*  
*L. trigynum*

**Lythraceae - Loosestrife Family**

*Lythrum junceum*

**Malvaceae - Mallow Family**

*Lavatera bryoniifolia*  
*L. cretica* Lesser Tree Mallow  
*Malva cretica*  
*M. parviflora* Small-flowered Mallow  
*M. sylvestris* Common Mallow

**Meliaceae - Persian Lilac family**

#*Melia azedarach* Indian Bead-tree (Persian Lilac)

**Moraceae - Fig Family**

*Ficus carica* Fig

**Myrtaceae - Myrtle Family**

*Myrtus communis* Common Myrtle

**Oleaceae - Olive Family**

#*Jasminum fruticans* Wild Jasmine  
*Olea europaea* Olive  
*Phillyrea latifolia*

**Orobanchaceae - Broomrape Family**

*Orobanche lavandulacea*  
*O. pubescens*  
*O. ramosa* Branched Broomrape

**Oxalidaceae - Sorrel Family**

#*Oxalis pes-caprae* Bermuda Buttercup

**Papaveraceae - Poppy Family**

*Glaucium flavum* Yellow Horned-poppy  
*Papaver purpureomarginatum*  
*P. rhoeas* Common Poppy

**Plantaginaceae - Plantain Family**

*Plantago afra*  
*P. bellardii*  
*P. lagopus*  
*P. lanceolata* Ribwort Plantain  
*P. weldenii*

**Platanaceae - Plane Family**

*Platanus orientalis*

Oriental Plane

**Polygalaceae - Milkwort Family**

*Polygala venulosa*

Eastern Milkwort

**Polygonaceae - Dock Family**

*Emex spinosa*

*Rumex bucephalophorus*

**Primulaceae - Primrose Family**

*Anagallis arvensis*

\**Cyclamen creticum*

Scarlet Pimpernel

Cretan Cyclamen

**Ranunculaceae - Buttercup Family**

*Adonis microcarpa*

*Anemone coronaria*

*A. hortensis* ssp. *heldreichii*

*Clematis cirrhosa*

*Ranunculus asiaticus*

\**R. cupreus*

*R. ficaria* ssp. *chrysocephalus*

*R. gracilis*

*R. peltatus* ssp. *fucoides*

Crown Anemone

Maiden's Bower

Turban Buttercup

Lesser Celandine

Pond Water-crowfoot

**Resedaceae - Mignonette Family**

*Reseda alba*

*Reseda lutea*

White Mignonette

Wild Mignonette

**Rhamnaceae - Buckthorn Family**

*Rhamnus lycioides*

**Rosaceae - Rose Family**

*Crataegus monogyna* ssp. *azarella*

#*Eriobotrya japonica*

*Prunus prostrata*

*P. webbii*

*Pyrus spinosa*

*Rubus sanctus*

*Sarcopterium spinosum*

Hawthorn

Loquat

Almond-leaved Pear

Bramble

Thorny Burnet

**Rubiaceae - Bedstraw Family**

*Galium aparine*

*Rubia peregrina*

*Sherardia arvensis*

*Valantia hispida*

Cleavers

Wild Madder

Field Madder

**Rutaceae - Rue Family**

# *Citrus limon*

# *Citrus sinensis*

*Ruta chalepensis*

Lemon

Orange

**Salicaceae - Willow Family**

#*Populus nigra*

Black Poplar

**Santalaceae- Sandalwood family**

*Osyris alba*

Osyris

**Scrophulariaceae - Figwort Family**

*Bellardia trixago*

Bellardia

*Linaria pelisseriana*

Jersey Toadflax

*Misopates orontium*

Lesser Snapdragon (Weasel's Snout)

*Parentucellia latifolia*

*Parentucellia viscosa*

Yellow Bartsia

*Scrophularia lucida*

Shining Figwort

*Scrophularia peregrina*

Nettle-leaved Figwort

\* *Verbascum arcturus*

Hanging Mullein

*V. macrurum*

*V. sinuatum*

*V. spinosum*

*Veronica cymbalaria*

**Solanaceae - Nightshade Family**

*Hyoscyamus albus*

White Henbane

#*Nicotiana glauca*

**Styracaceae - Storax Family**

*Styrax officinalis*

Storax

**Tamaricaceae - Tamarisk Family**

*Tamarix smyrnensis*

Tamarisk

**Thymelaeaceae - Daphne Family**

*Daphne sericea*

*Thymelaea hirsuta*

**Ulmaceae - Elm Family**

*Ulmus minor*

Small-leaved Elm

**Urticaceae - Nettle Family**

*Parietaria judaica*

Pellitory of the Wall

*Urtica urens*

Annual Nettle

*U. pilulifera*

Roman Nettle

**Valerianaceae - Valerian Family**

*Centranthus calcitrapae*

*Fedia cornucopiae*

\**Valeriana asarifolia*

Cretan Valerian

*Valerianella coronata*

*V. discoidea*

**Verbenaceae - Vervain Family**

*Vitex agnus-castus*

Chaste-tree

**Violaceae - Violet Family**

\**Viola cretica*

**Vitaceae - Vine Family**

*Vitis vinifera*

Grape Vine

## Monocotyledons

### **Agavaceae - Agave Family**

# *Agave americana*

Century Plant

### **Amaryllidaceae - Daffodil Family**

*Narcissus tazetta*

*Pancratium maritimum*

Sea Daffodil

### **Araceae - Arum Family**

*Arisarum vulgare*

*Arum concinatum*

*A. creticum*

*Dracunculus vulgaris*

Friar's Cowl

Cretan Arum

Dragon Arum

### **Areaceae – Palm Family**

# *Phoenix canariensis*

*P. theophrasti*

Date Palm

Cretan Palm

### **Cyperaceae - Sedge Family**

*Carex divulsa*

*C. otrubae*

*Cladium mariscus*

*Cyperus longus*

*Scirpoides holoschoenus*

Grey Sedge

False Fox-sedge

Saw-sedge

Galingale

Round-headed Club-rush

### **Iridaceae - Iris Family**

*Gladiolus italicus*

*Gynandriris sisyrinchium*

*Hermodactylus tuberosus*

\**Iris cretensis*

*Iris pseudocorus*

Field Gladiolus

Barbary Nut

Widow Iris

Yellow Flag

### **Juncaceae - Rush Family**

*Juncus heldreichianus*

### **Liliaceae - Lily Family**

*Allium nigrum*

*A. roseum*

*A. subhirsutum*

*Asparagus aphyllus*

*Asphodeline lutea*

*Asphodelus ramosus (aestivus)*

*Charybdis (Drimia, Urginea) maritima*

*Gagea chrysantha*

*G. graeca*

*Muscari comosum*

\**M. spreitzenhoferi*

*Ornithogalum exscapum*

*O. narbonense*

*Smilax aspera*

\**Tulipa bakeri*

\**T. doerfleri*

*T. rupestris*

Rose Garlic

Yellow Asphodel

Common Asphodel

Sea Squill

Tassel Hyacinth

Common Smilax

### **Orchidaceae - Orchid Family**

*Aceras anthropophorum*

*Anacamptis pyramidalis*

*Barlia robertiana*

*Neotinea maculata*

*Ophrys bilunulata*

*O. bombyliflora*

*O. doerfleri (cretica)*

*O. fuciflora*

*O. (scolopax) heldreichii*

*O. iricolor*

*O. lutea*

*O. phryganae*

*O. (sphegodes) mammosa*

*O. sphegodes*

*O. tentredinifera*

*Orchis anatolica*

*O. boryi*

*O. collina*

*O. italica*

*O. lactea*

*O. laxiflora*

*O. (provincialis) pauciflora*

*O. quadripunctata*

*O. simia*

*O. tridentata*

*Serapias (vomereacea) orientalis*

*S. parviflora*

Man Orchid

Pyramidal Orchid

Giant Orchid

Dense-flowered Orchid

Bumble Bee Orchid

Cretan Bee Orchid

Late Spider Orchid

Marengo Orchid

Rainbow Orchid

Yellow Bee Orchid

Mammose Orchid

Early spider orchid

Sawfly Orchid

Anatolian Orchid

Fan-lipped Orchid

Naked Man Orchid

Milky Orchid

Loose-flowered Orchid

Few-flowered Orchid

Four-spotted Orchid

Monkey Orchid

Toothed Orchid

Eastern Tongue-orchid

Small Tongue-orchid

### **Poaceae - Grass Family**

*Ammophila arenaria*

*Arundo donax*

*Briza maxima*

*B. minor*

*Hordeum leporinum*

*Hyparrhenia hirta*

*Lagurus ovatus*

*Lamarckia aurea*

*Lolium temulentum*

*Phragmites australis*

*Poa bulbosa*

*Triticum markgrafii (Aegilops dichasians)*

*Vulpia ciliata*

Marram

Giant Reed

Greater Quaking-grass

Small Quaking-grass

Hare's-tail

Darnel

Common Reed

Bulbous Meadow-grass

### **BUTTERFLIES**

Swallowtail

Scarce Swallowtail

Cretan Festoon

Large White

Small White

Mountain Small White

Dappled White

Clouded Yellow

Southern Comma

Painted Lady



Red Admiral  
Southern Speckled Wood  
Meadow Brown  
Wall Brown  
Small Copper  
African Grass Blue  
Lang's Short-tailed Blue  
Baton Blue  
Holly Blue  
Common Blue  
Mallow Skipper  
Lulworth Skipper  
Mediterranean Skipper

### **OTHER INVERTEBRATES**

*Potamon potamios*  
*Oedipoda germanica*  
    *O. coerulea*  
*Acrida* sp.  
*Anacridium aegyptiacum*  
*Anax imperator*  
*Crocothemis erythraea*  
*Ischnura elegans*  
*Calopteryx virgo*  
*Aquarius najas*  
*Graphosoma italicum*  
*Pyrrhocoris apterus*  
*Oxythyrea funesta*  
*Malachius bipustulatus*  
*Trichodes* sp.  
*Xylocopa violacea*  
*Dasylabris maura*  
*Polistes* sp.  
*Thaumetopoea pityocampa*

Freshwater Crab  
Red-winged Grasshopper  
Blue-winged Grasshopper  
a straw grasshopper  
Egyptian Locust  
Emperor Dragonfly  
Scarlet Darter  
Blue-tailed Damselfly  
Beautiful Demoiselle  
a large pond-skater  
a shield bug  
Firebug  
a black and white chafer  
a beetle  
a hairy-beetle  
Violet Carpenter-bee  
a velvet-ant  
a paper-wasp  
Pine Processionary-moth

### **AMPHIBIANS**

Green Toad (dead)  
Cretan Marsh Frog (heard)  
Common Tree Frog

### **REPTILES**

Balkan (Stripe-necked) Terrapin  
Balkan Green Lizard  
Erhard's Wall Lizard

### **MAMMALS**

Eastern Hedgehog (dead)  
Pipistrelle sp.  
Badger (dead)  
Cretan Wild Goat (Kri-kri)