



Honeyguide

WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

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Crete
10 – 17 April 2018

Participants

Shirley Awcock
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Mark and Julian Elliot
Clare Friedman

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Tim and Cheryl Hunt
Dorothy Norman
Gwen Richardson
Dilys Wadman

Leaders

Chris Durdin and Rob Macklin

Report by Rob Macklin, plant list by Chris Durdin.

Photos in this report were all taken during the holiday, by Andrew Edwards (AE), Cheryl Hunt (CH), Tim Hunt (TH) and Chris Durdin (CD).

Cover: squacco heron at Ayia Reservoir, *Orchis italica* and glossy ibises (TH), and *Ricotia cretica* in Kourtaliótiko Gorge (CD).

We stayed at the family-run Hotel Sofia in Plakias, www.sofiahotelpiakias.com.

Below: the group at Phaestos (AE).



As with all Honeyguide holidays, £40 of the price of the holiday was put towards a conservation project, in this case for the lammergeier project of the Hellenic Ornithological Society (HOS), which is based in Athens but whose work covers the whole of Greece and its islands. Honeyguide's donation to HOS (BirdLife Greece) for Crete this year was £1360 from two groups on Crete. It was made up of £40 per person and supplemented by gift aid through the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust. It takes our running total of donations to HOS since our first Crete group in 1995 to £12,155.

The Director of HOS writes: I would like to thank you for your support and trust in our work.
George Sgouros, Director, Hellenic Ornithological Society, Athens.

The total for all conservation contributions through Honeyguide since 1991 was £123,180 to May 2018.

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

INTRODUCTION

A glorious week of bright sunshine and temperatures in the high 20s for the most part was particularly welcome after dreary conditions in the UK. A major highlight of the trip was the heron migration along the south coast including a huge flock of some 300 birds moving east over Plakias on our first day. Passerine migration was almost non-existent in the warm and dry conditions but the resident birds put on a great show with daily flocks of griffon vultures, three species of eagles seen and two sightings of the elusive lammergeier, better known in Crete as bearded vulture.

The wetlands in Crete provided great views of many scarce species, particularly squacco herons at Timbaki, a very confiding night heron at Ayia Reservoir, little crakes at both Kalamaki Pools and Ayia Reservoir and an unexpected bonus in the shape of a Baillon's crake, also at Ayia Reservoir.

In Crete in spring one cannot fail to be utterly impressed by the colour on the hillsides in the phrygana with masses of flowering broom, two sages and a host of other plants. The flowers at Spili Bumps, while not at their best, were still a delight with many species of orchid including bishop's ophrys and fields of loose-flowered orchids and wild orange tulips. The flowers on the Omalós plateau were a real treat, especially the pink tulips and the flowering crown anemones.

A holiday in Crete is not complete without sampling taverna life and most of us were overwhelmed particularly by the gargantuan Greek salads and other delights. Many thanks to everyone for making this such a great and enjoyable week and we hope everyone enjoyed it as much as us.

Tuesday 10 April – Heraklion to Plakias

Leaving behind a dreary Gatwick we arrived at Heraklion in bright sunshine and temperatures which climbed into the low 20s throughout the day. We quickly picked up our splendid buses and headed off west to a beach taverna at Fodele for a late typically Cretan lunch – trying not to over-order but failing spectacularly! Birds appeared here as if by magic with our first four griffon vultures soaring overhead with a male marsh harrier, a raven and four alpine swifts. On the sandy beach three-horned stock and sea medick were in flower with our first clouded yellow butterfly nectaring on the stock.



Three-horned stock on the beach at Fodele; death's head hawkmoth, Plakias seafront (CD).

We continued our journey into the afternoon driving past Rethymnon and stopping again at the magnificent Kourtaliótiko Gorge. The undoubted highlight here was an adult Bonelli's eagle drifting along the ridge but there were also three more griffon vultures, three red-rumped swallows, a chough, three crag martins and several proper-looking rock doves.

As we approached Plakias we spotted an amazing passage of 300+ herons moving north-east over the outskirts of the town. Most appeared to be purple herons but we also managed to pick out at least 10 night herons and three grey herons – an amazing sight. As an added bonus 30 glossy ibises also moved through – what a start to the week!

At Plakias we spotted many swallows and three alpine Swifts before booking into our rooms at the Hotel Sofia. Our evening meal was at the Gorgona taverna where we were served gargantuan Greek salads among other delights.

Wednesday 11 April – Myrthios and Kanevos

Before breakfast Chris and Rob took one of the buses to the hilltop village of Myrthios and on the way back bumped into a Naturetrek group. They had seen a death's head hawk-moth fly onto a beachside tamarisk. Naturally this was our first stop with the group after breakfast with many cameras clicking away at this rarely encountered moth. The first part of the walk was slow as we battled with identifying the hordes of new flowers on show on rough ground and within the olive groves. A European dwarf mantis was admired on the first open area. Particularly spectacular among the flowers were flowering honeywort, lesser snapdragon, the superb pink *Convolvulus elegantissimus* and the rather exotic looking and endemic Cretan wall lettuce. Perhaps the most exciting find was two huge, full-flowering dragon arums.



European dwarf mantis, *Ameles spallanzania*, female; *Convolvulus elegantissimus* (CD).

It was very noticeable that there were few passerine migrants, probably because these birds had flown through in such good weather. However we did spot five griffon vultures over the towering Kotsiphou Gorge and a lammergeier drifting along the ridge, albeit a long way off. Along the walk both Cetti's and Sardinian warblers provided the musical backdrop and two woodchat shrikes perched up in the scrub. We also found three purple herons flying low over the trees and one perched in the top of a pine giving us all great views. Several butterflies were tempted out by the warm conditions including clouded yellow, holly blue and southern speckled wood: three eastern dappled whites tumbled together over the masses of flowers. More invertebrates appeared in the shape of a huge mammoth wasp while Chris caught a one-legged Egyptian locust. As we neared Myrthios we found a superb patch of field gladiolus and we all admired many tongue orchids *Serapias orientalis* on the roadside.

We were relieved to finally reach Myrthios after a steep climb towards the end of the walk. Before lunch we spotted 19 purple herons overhead as well as four more soaring griffon vultures and seven alpine swifts. After a delicious lunch in Taverna Panorama (still the best Imam Bayildi in the area) and a mooch around the craft shop, we drove the short distance through the Kotsiphou Gorge to an area of woodland above the village of Kanevos. One part of the woodland floor was covered in the white endemic Cretan cyclamen in all their glory while friar's cowl was also found in profusion. Birds here included a singing male cirl bunting in full view, a brief female pied flycatcher and a singing turtle dove which was also seen by Tim and Cheryl. Our last port of call was at a nearby roadside where we encountered many Italian man and loose-flowered orchids plus one woodcock-type orchid *Ophrys heldreichii* as well as one-flowered clover. A great day and good introduction to the wildlife, particularly the flora, of Crete. Our evening meal was at Muses taverna and on the way we spotted 20+ glossy ibises flying east as dusk approached.

Thursday 12 April – Phaestos, Ayia Triada, Kalamaki Pools and Timbaki Lagoons

A prompt start for the drive to Phaestos and the summer palace of Ayia Triada via the busy town of Timbaki. As we arrived in hot sunshine a cirl bunting was in song and Tim spotted a woodchat shrike in the scrub on the steep slopes. A griffon vulture and two buzzards were soaring overhead and they were joined by the first of 60 alpine swifts seen during the day. As we walked up to the café a swallowtail and scarce swallowtail butterfly were spiralling around together before dispersing and a male wheatear showed well out in the open on the dry grassland. The vegetation was much drier here than further west around Plakias. Two male kestrels were hunting over the olive groves, a couple of stonechats and a bright male greenfinch provided further interest before Ursula spotted a large raptor which turned out to be a superb female Montagu's harrier quartering the landscape.

After refreshments at the site café, some of the group visited the archaeological site while the remainder explored the immediate area. Our only hoopoe of the trip was seen twice flitting through the olive groves but did not settle to give good views. Chris pointed out a bryony ladybird feeding on squirting cucumber, a southern Europe invertebrate species which has now been found in the UK.

Rob then spotted a large eagle moving up through the valley and several of the group managed to get on to the only booted eagle of the trip, a pale-phase bird obviously on migration as it quickly headed north being mobbed by a hooded crow and two kestrels.



Bryony ladybird on squirting cucumber; Lulworth skipper on pitch trefoil (CD).

As the group reformed, some decided to walk the whole three kilometres down to Ayia Triada while the rest of us explored the roadside vegetation and opted for a lift to the summer palace, especially with temperatures hitting the 30°C mark! Several small brown butterflies were identified as Lulworth skipper, a species with a Dorset name that occurs all over Europe. Masses of colourful mallow bindweed was in flower and the hillsides were covered in flowering Cretan ebony. A male emperor dragonfly was on the wing in the heat while birds included two woodchat shrikes, a corn bunting, another buzzard, and eagle-eyed Kathryn found the first whinchat of the trip. Some found shade from today's hot sun for picnics above Ayia Triada where a raven flew overhead and another male kestrel hunted over the dry vegetation.

Our next stop was at the wetland site of Kalamaki Pools at the far end of a disused airstrip, built by the occupying German forces in the war. We were concerned to find piles of rubbish dumped at the very end of the lagoons, still a common practice in Crete, but most of the area had survived intact. Large yellow restharrow was growing on the sand as linnets and goldfinches scattered at our approach. As we arrived at the lookout over the lagoons two black-winged stilts took off calling loudly, while up to four wood sandpipers flew around calling but soon settled down giving us all good views. A pair of garganeys were feeding in the shallows at the back of the lagoons with the male particularly showing himself out in the open. Undoubtedly the star birds here were three little crakes which were feeding along the edges of the reeds and we all managed to see this scarce bird well, albeit at a distance.

It was time to move to the last stop of the day, another wetland at Timbaki Lagoons with very easy access and viewing from the roadside. This site was low on water but teeming with a whole variety of birds. Three stunning squacco herons were feeding right out in the open and were joined by many waders including two ruffs, four little stints, a greenshank, a dunlin, at least five wood sandpipers and six little ringed plovers which were displaying right in front of the group. Careful examination of all the waders came up trumps as we identified two elegant marsh sandpipers feeding in the shallows. Out on the marsh several yellow blobs turned out to be three pairs of migrant black-headed yellow wagtails *Motacilla flava feldegg* running back and forth over the mud, hovering up insects. As we were congratulating ourselves on so many good birds a huge flock of 300 garganeys flew back and forth along the sea front and a flock of 150+ glossy ibises flew directly west over our heads through at least 40 alpine swifts wheeling through the air – what an amazing spectacle!

A long drive back to Plakias where yet more migration was underway as a red-rumped swallow flew overhead and Kathryn found 41 little egrets and seven night herons on the rocks off the beach. On the way to Apenemo taverna all of us got great views as the birds settled down for the night.

Friday 13 April – Kourtaliótiko Gorge and Spili in the Kedros Foothills

Before breakfast the early birder group headed out to nearby Souda Bay looking for migrants. The area was relatively quiet but there was a common sandpiper on the beach and a male Sardinian warbler perched up in full view. Chris then heard a great reed warbler but we were unable to pin it down but had more luck with good views of a woodchat shrike. There were some fine examples of the near-endemic Cretan palm here and Roman nettle was in flower.



Egret rock, Plakias; a griffon vulture is mobbed by a raven (CH).

Gwen did not appear at breakfast and we discovered that she had fallen in her room, though she was wonderfully calm considering. A doctor came within minutes and called an ambulance. Accompanied by Dilys, the hospital at Rethymnon established she had broken her femur. Insurers and family were contacted and Gwen was flown by air ambulance back to the UK for treatment a few days later. Writing this later, she is making an excellent recovery in her characteristic good spirits.

In the meantime, while arrangements were being made, the little egret count on the rocks at Plakias had gone up to 70. Our first stop after leaving Plakias was at the nearby impressive Kourtaliótiko Gorge where most of the group descended the steps to the valley floor while a few birders remained above. The walk down to the chapel was through a stunning rock garden with flowering plants including Cretan cyclamen, shepherd's needle, the endemic crucifer *Ricotia cretica* (see cover picture) and topped off by a splendid white-flowering storax tree below the chapel.



Kourtaliótiko Gorge; a southern comma casts a shadow in the gorge (CD); storax blooms (AE).

Back up top the birders were enjoying good views of breeding kestrels and ravens, many rock doves, at least 40 alpine swifts, three male blue rock thrushes and several choughs including one being mobbed by crag martins. Griffon vultures were very much in evidence with at least 27 birds in the air at once, including a very ragged individual, topped off by a fly-past of an adult Bonelli's eagle. Unknown to the birders the rest of the group had excellent views of the pair of Bonelli's eagles from within the lower reaches of the gorge. It was time to move on to the attractive town of Spili where we had our packed lunches by the impressive water fountains, flowing through 25 lion heads: the water straight from the limestone tasted superb. A pair of swallows were already nesting on a local building and several butterflies jinked past the fountains including Cretan festoon, southern comma and the delightful Cleopatra. A large damselfly was swiftly identified by Chris as a Cretan banded demoiselle *Calopteryx splendens cretensis*.

After lunch we moved on to the botanically rich area known as the Spili Bumps in the Kedros foothills in search of orchids and tulips, among others. We were slightly worried as the spring had been really dry but we were soon engrossed in searching out botanical delights. The most abundant and showy orchids were scores of Italian man orchids across the scrub and grassland and we found hundreds of loose-flowered orchids in one particular field.

More orchids were soon found including the distinctive Cretan bee orchid, phrygana orchid (a yellow bee orchid), eastern sawfly orchid, *Orchis sitiaca* and scores of the purple *Orchis boryi*. Tony was particularly pleased to be photographed next to the stunning bishop's ophrys *Ophrys episcopalis*. As well as orchids many other riches were on offer and we found many white flowers of the lily *Gagea graeca*, several patches of red Mediterranean kidney-vetch and the impressive perfoliate alexanders. No visit to Spili would be complete without the tulips and we duly found many red tulips *Tulipa doerfleri* in full flower with the loose-flowered orchids. Birds were few and far between here but we did get excellent views of two black-eared wheatears, one in song, plus singing woodlarks and corn buntings. Several stonechats were found in the scrub along with a female northern wheatear, while the ubiquitous griffon vultures put in an appearance with up to 12 in the air at once. A splendid end to a superb day. Our evening meal was at yet another establishment, Taverna Sirocco.



Flowers at 'Spili bumps': *Orchis sitiaca* (CD); arable mix with corn marigolds, poppies and shepherd's needle (AE); bishop's ophrys (CD).

Saturday 14 April – Ayia Reservoir and Omalós Plateau

An early start for the two-hour drive to the north-west coast of Crete and the White Mountains. As we reached the north coast a coastal fret came in and we were hoping this would not reach too far inland. Our fears were unfounded as we reached Ayia Reservoir in bright sunshine and another hot day in prospect.

As expected this site was alive with birds starting with our first swifts, 20 hawking insects over the lake. We quickly spotted four garganeys including three stunning males, a single mute swan was on the lake and two squacco herons were fishing in the shallows. Quite unbelievably an adult night heron was standing on wet vegetation just yards from the path giving us all fantastic views. Amid all this excitement sedge warblers were singing and flitting through the reeds, over 100 coots and 20 little grebes were going about their business on the lake and a female marsh harrier landed in the reeds at the back of the lake, most probably her nest site.



Relaxed birdwatching at Ayia Reservoir; one of the marsh sandpipers there (CD).

Singing Cetti's warblers and blackcaps provided the musical backdrop, many bright blue emperor dragonflies patrolled the lake edges and seven common buzzards hovered into view, quite possibly migrant birds heading north. This site is well known for allowing good views of crakes and we soon spotted up to three little crakes moving stealthily through the vegetation and occasionally popping out into the open.

We were less prepared for the next species which was spotted with the little crakes, a Baillon's crake feeding purposefully on the vegetated mud but allowing good if fleeting views – an excellent find and a new species for everyone, including Rob. A marsh sandpiper was out in the open on the weir, another night heron showed up with two grey herons, and only Chris managed to get a fleeting view of a little bittern ... but what a morning!

After refreshments we moved on towards Omalós, stopping at a roadside spot for our picnic lunches. A male black-eared wheatear was in full song here as four griffon vultures drifted overhead and Chris pointed out Kermes oak and flowering Cretan mouse-ear. After lunch we moved on to the Omalós plateau in search of tulips although many seemed to have gone over in the hot and dry conditions at our first stopping point. Fortunately we did find a splendid group of the pink tulip *Tulipa bakeri* growing in the relative shelter of a concrete wall. Woodlarks, cirl and corn buntings were all in song here and we had a good view of a scarce swallowtail butterfly. The undoubted bird highlight was two golden eagles displaying over a nearby ridge, not close but easy enough to identify.

We drove on to the end of the road and the entrance to the Samaria Gorge, closed until May 1st. The views from the car park were breathtaking but even better in the higher café. Our stay in the car park was short-lived as a swarm of bees appeared from nowhere, leading us to beat a hasty retreat. Chris took a few of the group up the steep stairs to the café while the rest of us took the easy way in the bus. Wild aubretia was flowering out of the rocks and there was also a flowering Venus's looking glass. From the café three alpine swifts drifted over and a black-eared wheatear was in song. Back at the car park Chris showed us the intriguing long, thin Cretan door snail near a burnt candytuft.



On Omalós Plateau: scarce swallowtail (CD); the seasonal Mediterranean pond (AE); crown anemone (TH).

Leaving the gorge, we stopped at a roadside spot where scores of pink tulips were in flower with stunning clumps of crown anemones. Most of these were behind fences, essential to stop the local goats cleaning them up, but very impressive nonetheless. Our next and last stop of the day was at a temporary Mediterranean pond where 10 house martins skimmed across the surface taking a drink on the wing. A red dragonfly was finally captured in the scope and was found to be a red-veined darter, while Cretan marsh frogs called from the pond depths. On the nearby ridge one of the golden eagles reappeared along with 10 griffon vultures, a buzzard and yet more alpine swifts. There was just time for a tour around the plateau before heading for home after a tiring but exhilarating day, with dinner at Muses taverna.

Sunday 15 April – Moní Préveli and Kotsiphos Gorge

More wind this morning but still sunny and very warm as we headed off east and a short drive to Moní Préveli. On arrival we explored the area below the monastery of Ayios Ioannis but there were very few migrants apart from a wheatear and an overflying tree pipit. A meadow brown was a new butterfly for the trip and we found another southern comma. New plants here included the striking yellow asphodel, colourful field marigolds and two species of mullein in flower. The group then decided to have a look around the monastery while outside the walls was another woodchat shrike, two male black-eared wheatears and six more griffon vultures overhead.

Leaving the monastery we paused briefly at the memorial dedicated to the monks helping allied soldiers in WW2. While we were here a very confiding tawny pipit fed unconcernedly on the edge of the car park giving us great views. Two more corn buntings were seen well here and another clouded yellow drifted by. Moving on we stopped for lunch by the river at the Turkish (or Venetian) bridge where several dragonflies were skimming across the water. As well as large blue emperor dragonflies we spotted three bright blue male southern skimmers, another first for all (except Chris). Another scarce swallowtail fluttered across the grassland and Dot found a freshwater crab crawling into a hole in the wall. On the bridge itself was a tiny flowering bellflower *Campanula erinus* as well as an even tinier white *Teucrium alpestre*. The botanical star of the show here was a large flowering storax tree.

As we were about to move on Rob decided to have one last look along the ridge, quickly picking up 32 griffon vultures and then finally, a distinct shape of a soaring lammergeier which we all managed to get onto. Unfortunately several of the group had gone back to Plakias with Chris and missed this enigmatic bird.

In the 'free' afternoon several of us drove towards the site of a bee-eater colony but on the way made an unscheduled roadside stop as a whinchat was spotted from the buses. We all disembarked to look at this migrant and quickly spotted five more whinchats, most of them very bright males. A pair of woodlarks was taking food into their nest, another bird was singing on the opposite side of the road and another woodchat shrike perched right out in the open for us. There was a small seasonal pool here, full of tadpoles and being guarded by an adult Cretan marsh frog. There were several small damselflies here quickly identified as winter damselflies as well as a blue-tailed damselfly. A bee-eater was heard high in the sky but could not be detected, then a burst of song from a solitary tree was immediately recognised by Chris as an olivaceous warbler – a great find. The bird proved almost impossible to see but was just glimpsed as it moved deeper into cover.



Southern skimmer at Turkish Bridge (CH); winter damselflies elsewhere are easier to overlook (CD).

We duly arrived at the bee-eater colony but as feared, we were a little early in the season and none could be found. Compensation was in the shape of two turtle doves singing in the woods and then perching out in the open. Two buzzards drifted over followed by a female Montagu's harrier which soared across the woodland giving us all great views. On the roadside we saw two large Balkan green lizards and the rocks here were covered in very attractive turban buttercups and more red kidney-vetch. Heading back to Plakias we stopped off at Kotsiphou gorge to check out a site for monkey orchids. The orchids were there but unfortunately had already gone over in the hot conditions although a solitary pyramidal orchid was found in flower. Six more griffon vultures soared around the peaks and we had another view of the female Montagu's harrier plus a raven carrying food to its nest high on the crags. Back at Plakias there were three more purple herons to finish off the day before another gargantuan meal, this time at Taverna Apanemo.

Monday 16 April – Frangocastello

Our final pre-breakfast excursion took us to the nearby resort of Damnoni, just east of Plakias. Again very few migrants but both little ringed plover and common sandpiper were on the beach, three alpine swifts were overhead and there was a fine male blue rock thrush in song. After breakfast we took the coast road to Frangocastello but stopped briefly at Kotsiphou gorge to see if we could find Rüppell's warbler. No luck on that score but we did find another 20 griffon vultures, two choughs, two kestrels and a singing blue rock thrush.

We arrived at the fort at Frangocastello in mid-morning and explored the plain before lunch. There was more cloud today and storm clouds were brewing in the west. Birds were thin on the ground here although we did manage to find several crested larks giving good views, a couple of stonechats and fleeting views of four tawny pipits. Nine butterfly species were on the wing including swallowtail, painted lady and common blue and one particular irregular rock had attracted scores of a mason bee species *Osmia signata*. Several new plants were located, particularly the elusive mandrake, white horehound, Cretan white bryony, caper and several examples of love-in-a-mist. Offshore there was little action apart from a cormorant flying by before Kathryn spotted a shearwater moving back and forth, identified as a yelkouan or Levantine shearwater, similar to the UK's Manx shearwater. The clouds were getting nearer and a short shower ensued so we retreated to the local taverna for coffee and more superb fresh orange juice.

We had lunch in the shadow of the fort before exploring a small area of wetland below the fort. This proved very productive as we immediately encountered a flock of 30+ glossy ibises flying east and a larger flock of some 50 yellow wagtails of all three expected races: black-headed, blue-headed and grey-headed. They had almost certainly just arrived from Africa and were busy washing in the small stream by the giant reed. More movements involved nine purple herons flying east, quickly followed by six little egrets. On the beach three little ringed plovers flew off and Cheryl called us back to the stream where three scarlet darters, including two in tandem, were darting back and forth across the water. A wood sandpiper then flew in and landed right next to the group – obviously another hungry migrant.



Scarlet darter, aka broad scarlet; “a wood sandpiper landed next to the group” (CH).

Chris took great delight in explaining about the ‘nun’s farts’ on the beach – matted balls of sea grass aka Neptune-weed or *Posidonia* – while more plants were found in the shape of water figwort and sea spurge. Before we left we just had time to take a look at another area of phrygana where we found flowering osyris and a yellow flax *Linum strictum*.



Group members search for nun’s farts and a few examples with more bits of Neptune-weed.

On the way home we stopped off at a high point to look for ortolan bunting; we certainly heard the bird singing but just could not locate it. We had to be content with two male blue rock thrushes, a woodlark and the obligatory griffon vultures. Back at the hotel Rob was lucky enough to see six bee-eaters from his balcony, probably just arrived and calling loudly. Our last evening meal was at the fish taverna Tasomanolis which was a jolly affair, rounded off with the usual raki!

Tuesday 17 April– homeward bound

Another glorious day as we prepared to depart for our flight to Gatwick but not before a great reed warbler had been found at the back of the hotel, a Cetti’s warbler perched out in the open for a change and four red-rumped swallows went over. Bidding our farewells to Hotel Sofia and Plakias we found time to stop briefly before Rethymnon to have a look at valonia oaks and their large acorn cups. As we were about to leave we heard a wryneck calling from the woodland; we could not find it but it was a fitting way to end a superb week on the always impressive island of Crete.

Holiday highlights

Tim	Baillon’s crane, purple heron migration.
Cheryl	Glossy ibises, crown anemones.
Mark	Marsh sandpiper, field gladioli.
Julian	Taverna at Fodele, good company, purple heron on the tree.
Kathryn	Great counts of birds.
Dot	Well-informed people.
Shirley	Crown anemones, heron migration, where were the bee-eaters?
Dilys	Wheatear at Phaestos, great leadership, great people.
Tony	Bishop’s ophrys.
Rosie	Crown anemones, dinner chats with Rob.
Andrew	Storax blossom, night herons on rocks.
Ursula	Crown anemones.
Clare	Omalós Plateau esp. crown anemones.
Rob	Heron migration, lammergeier, superb group.
Chris	Heron and ibis migration, roadside pond, Dot’s crab.

WILDLIFE LISTS

BIRDS

Little grebe	20+ at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Yelkouan shearwater	One offshore at Frangocastello on 16 th .
Cormorant	One offshore at Frangocastello on 16 th .
Little bittern	One at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Night heron	At least 10 east over Plakias on 10 th , seven on rocks at Plakias on 12 th & one at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Squacco heron	Three at Timbaki Lagoons on 12 th & two at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Little egret	Recorded on four days with peaks of 41 at Plakias on 12 th rising to 70 on the 13 th .
Grey heron	Three east over Plakias on 10 th & two at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Purple heron	250+ east over Plakias on 10 th , 19 over Myrthios on 11 th , three at Plakias on 15 th & nine at Frangocastello on 16 th .
Glossy ibis	30 over Plakias on 10 th , 150 over Timbaki Lagoons on 12 th & 30+ east at Frangocastello on 16 th .
Mute swan	One at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Mallard	Male at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Pintail	Two males and a female at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Garganey	300+ offshore at Timbaki Lagoons on 12 th , two at Kalamaki Pools on 12 th & four at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Lammergeier	One over the Kotsiphou Gorge on 11 th and one from the Turkish bridge on 15 th .
Griffon vulture	Seen daily with peak counts of 40 around Kourtaliótiko Gorge & Spili on 13 th & 45 in Kotsiphou Gorge area on 15 th .
Marsh harrier	Male overhead at Fodele on 10 th and female at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Montagu's harrier	Female at Phaestos on 12 th & female over Kotsiphou Gorge area on 15 th .
Common buzzard	Widespread and common.
Golden eagle	Two on Omalós Plateau on 14 th .
Bonelli's eagle	Adult at Kourtaliótiko Gorge on 10 th and two adults there on 13 th .
Booted eagle	A pale-phase bird at Phaestos on 12 th .
Kestrel	Widespread on the higher ground including a breeding pair at Kourtaliótiko Gorge.
Chukar	One heard at Spili Bumps on 13 th .
Little crane	Three at Kalamaki Pools on 12 th and three at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Baillon's crane	One at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Moorhen	Recorded from Kalamaki Pools on 12 th and common at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Coot	100+ at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Black-winged stilt	Two at Kalamaki Pools & one at Timbaki Lagoons on 12 th .
Little ringed plover	Six at Timbaki Lagoons on 12 th , one at Damnoni on 15 th & three at Frangocastello on 16 th .
Little Stint	Four at Timbaki Lagoons on 12 th .
Dunlin	One at Timbaki Lagoons on 12 th .
Ruff Two	at Timbaki Lagoons on 12 th .
Marsh sandpiper	Two at Timbaki Lagoons on 12 th & two at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Greenshank	One at Timbaki Lagoons on 12 th .
Wood sandpiper	Peak of 10 at Kalamaki Pools & Timbaki Lagoons on 12 th .
Common sandpiper	Peak of three at Timbaki Lagoons & Plakias on 12 th .
Yellow-legged gull	Widespread & common at coastal areas.
Rock dove	Common in the gorges.
Woodpigeon	Widespread & relatively common.
Collared dove	Common in towns & villages.
Turtle dove	One at Kanevos on 11 th and two at bee-eater site on 15 th .
Swift	Peaks of 20 at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th & 30 at Frangocastello on 16 th .
Alpine swift	Widespread and common with a peak count of 60 over the Phaestos area on 12 th .
Bee-eater	Heard at Phaestos on 12 th , Kotsiphou Gorge area on 15 th & six at Plakias on 16 th .
Hoopoe	One at Phaestos on 12 th .
Wryneck	One heard at valonia oaks site near Rethymnon on 17 th .
Crested lark	Widespread & common.
Woodlark	Singing males noted at Spili Bumps, Omalós Plateau, on the road to Frangocastello & a nesting pair in the Kotsiphou Gorge area.
Crag martin	Recorded in small numbers from the Kotsiphou & Kourtaliótiko Gorges.
Swallow	Widespread & common.
Red-rumped swallow	Peak counts were three at the Kourtaliótiko Gorge on 10 th & four at Plakias on 16 th .
House martin	10 at Omalós Plateau on 14 th and four at Frangocastello on 16 th .
Tawny pipit	One at Moní Préveli on 15 th and four at Frangocastello on 16 th .
Tree pipit	Heard at Moní Préveli.
Yellow wagtail	Five of the black-headed race were at Timbaki Lagoons on 12 th then 50+ of all three races at Frangocastello on 16 th .
Wren	One at Kanevos on 11 th and heard while driving.
Whinchat	One at Phaestos on 12 th and eight in Kotsiphou Gorge area on 15 th .
Stonechat	Widespread & fairly common.
Northern wheatear	Noted on four days, all singles except two on 12 th at Phaestos & Kalamaki Pools.
Black-eared wheatear	Singing males recorded from Spili Bumps, Omalós Plateau, Moní Préveli and on the road to Frangocastello.
Blue rock thrush	One in Kourtaliótiko Gorge on 10 th and three there on 13 th , one at Damnoni on 16 th with two more on the Frangocastello road.

Blackbird	Widespread & common.
Cetti's warbler	Heard daily but rarely seen.
Sedge warbler	Three at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Great reed warbler	Two heard at Kalamaki Pools on 12 th and one at Plakias on 17 th .
Olivaceous warbler	One in Kotsiphou Gorge area on 15 th .
Sardinian warbler	Widespread & common.
Blackcap	Two at Kanevos on 11 th and two at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Pied flycatcher	Female at Kanevos on 11 th .
Blue tit	Nest building at Myrthios on 11 th and on Omalós Plateau on 14 th .
Great tit	Widespread & not uncommon.
Woodchat shrike	Two at Myrthios on 11 th , two at Phaestos on 12 th , one at Spili Bumps on 13 th & two at Moní Préveli area on 15 th .
Jay	One on Omalós Plateau on 14 th .
Chough	One in Kourtaliótiko Gorge on 10 th with six there on 13 th ; two at Kotsiphou Gorge on 16 th .
Jackdaw	Peak of 60 at the Kourtaliótiko Gorge on 10 th .
Hooded crow	Widespread & common.
Raven	Peak of six on road to Frangocastello on 16 th .
Italian sparrow	Widespread & common.
Chaffinch	Widespread & common.
Serin	One at Ayia Reservoir on 14 th .
Greenfinch	Occasionally recorded in small numbers from woodland areas.
Goldfinch	Six at Kalamaki Pools on 12 th and six at Pheastos on 12 th .
Linnet	Two at Kalamaki Pools on 12 th and two at Spili Bumps on 13 th .
Cirl bunting	Peak of four on Omalós Plateau on 14 th .
Corn bunting	Peak of six on Omalós Plateau on 14 th .

AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES			
Cretan marsh frog	Balkan or stripe-necked terrapin	Balkan green lizard	Erhard's wall lizard
MAMMALS (all dead on road)			
Eastern hedgehog	Badger	Beech marten	
BUTTERFLIES			
Swallowtail	Eastern dappled white	Red admiral	Brown argus
Scarce swallowtail	Clouded yellow	Meadow brown	Common blue
Cretan festoon	Cleopatra	Southern speckled wood	Lulworth skipper
Large white	Southern comma	Wall brown	
Small white	Painted lady	Holly blue	
MOTHS			
	Death's head hawkmoth	Pine processionary moth	
BEES			
<i>Apis mellifera</i> honeybee	<i>Osmia signata</i> a mason bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i> violet carpenter bee	
WASPS			
	<i>Polistes gallicum</i> a paper wasp	<i>Megascolia maculata</i> a mammoth wasp	
BEETLES AND BUGS			
<i>Coccinella 7-punctata</i> seven spot ladybird	<i>Henosepilachna elaterii</i> bryony ladybird	<i>Oxythyrea cinctella</i> a flower chafer	<i>Graphosoma italicum</i>
ODONATA			
<i>Orthetrum brunneum</i> southern skimmer		<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i> scarlet darter	
<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i> red-veined darter		<i>Anax imperator</i> emperor dragonfly	
<i>Sympecma fusca</i> winter damselfly		<i>Ischnura elegans</i> blue-tailed damselfly	
<i>Caleopteryx splendens</i> ssp. <i>cretensis</i>	Cretan banded demoiselle		
OTHER INVERTEBRATES			
House centipede <i>Scutigera coleoptrata</i>		Freshwater crab <i>Potamon potamios</i>	
Cretan door snail <i>Albinaria inflata</i>		Nosey cone-headed grasshopper <i>Truxalis nasuta</i>	
European dwarf mantis <i>Ameles spallanzania</i>		Cretan bright bush-cricket <i>Poecilimon cretensis</i>	



Cretan bright bush-cricket (CD); mason bees (TH); Cretan banded demoiselle (CD).

PLANTS

The main references for identification and names of plants are:
Mediterranean Wild Flowers (Blamey & Grey-Wilson 1993); Wild Flowers of Crete by Vangelis Papiomitoglou;
Flowers of Crete by J Fielding & N Turland; and www.cretanflora.com

* = Endemic to Crete. NiF = not in flower. # = Introduced and not native to Crete, and cultivated or planted species.

FERNS AND ALLIES	
<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair fern
<i>Asplenium onopteris</i>	similar to black spleenwort
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken
<i>Selaginella denticulata</i>	Mediterranean club-moss
CONIFERS	
Cupressaceae Cypress Family	
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	Cypress
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> var. <i>pyramidalis</i>	Funeral cypress
Ephedraceae Joint pines	
<i>Ephedra distachya</i>	Joint pine
Pinaceae Pine Family	
# <i>Araucaria araucana</i>	Norfolk Island pine
<i>Pinus brutia</i>	Calabrian pine
# <i>Pinus pinea</i>	Stone pine
FLOWERING PLANTS Dicotyledons	
Aceraceae Maple Family	
<i>Acer sempervirens</i>	
Aizoaceae Aizoan Family	
# <i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Hottentot fig
Anacardiaceae Pistacio Family	
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastic tree or lentisc
Apiaceae (=Umbelliferae) Carrot Family	
* <i>Chaerophyllum creticum</i>	(Omalós)
<i>Coriandrum sativum</i>	Coriander
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	Rock samphire
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild carrot
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field eryngo
<i>Ferula communis</i> ssp. <i>communis</i>	Giant fennel
<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i>	Corky-fruited water dropwort
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's needle
<i>Smyrniium perfoliatum</i> ssp. <i>rotundifolium</i>	Perfoliate alexanders
<i>Tordylium apulum</i>	Mediterranean hartwort
Asteraceae (Compositae) Daisy Family	
<i>Anthemis chia</i>	Mayweed
<i>Anthemis rigida</i> ssp. <i>rigida</i>	Rayless chamomile
<i>Asteriscus maritimus</i>	Yellow sea aster
<i>Bellis longifolia</i>	
<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Field marigold
* <i>Centaurea raphanina</i>	a stemless knapweed
<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i> var. <i>coronarium</i> (<i>Glebionis coronaria</i>)	Crown daisy
<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i> var. <i>discolor</i>	Crown daisy
<i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i>	Corn marigold
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Chicory
<i>Crupina crupinastrum</i>	Crupina
<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	Aromatic inula NiF
<i>Filago (Evax) pygmaea</i>	Evax
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Mediterranean thistle
<i>Helichrysum (stoechas</i> ssp.) <i>barrelieri</i>	Curry-plant
<i>Helichrysum conglobatum</i>	A curry-plant without scent
<i>Inula crithmoides</i>	Golden samphire
<i>Notobasis syriaca</i>	
<i>Pallenis (Asteriscus) spinosus</i>	Spiny golden star

Asteraceae (cont'd)	
<i>Phagnalon graecum</i>	Shrubby cudweed
<i>Scorzonera cretica</i>	Cretan viper's-grass
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk thistle NiF
* <i>Staehelina arborea</i>	NiF
<i>Tragopogon sinuatus</i> (<i>porrifolius</i>)	Salsify
Apocynaceae Oleander Family	
<i>Nerium oleander</i> ssp. <i>oleander</i>	# Oleander
Berberidaceae Barberry Family	
<i>Berberis cretica</i>	
Boraginaceae Borage Family	
<i>Anchusa italica</i> (<i>azurea</i>)	Large blue alkanet
<i>Cerithe major</i>	Honeywort
<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	Blue hound's-tongue
<i>Echium angustifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved bugloss
<i>Echium italicum</i>	Pale bugloss
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple viper's bugloss
<i>Onosma erecta</i>	A goldendrop, Omalós
<i>Onosma graecum</i>	Goldendrop
Cactaceae Cactus Family	
# <i>Opuntia ficus-barbarica</i> (<i>O. ficus-indica</i>)	Prickly pear
Campanulaceae Bellflower Family	
<i>Campanula erinus</i>	
<i>Legousia pentagonia</i>	A Venus's looking-glass
<i>Legousia speculum-veneris</i>	Large Venus's looking-glass
* <i>Petromarula pinnata</i>	Cretan wall lettuce
Capparaceae Caper Family	
<i>Capparis spinosa</i>	Caper
Caprifoliaceae Honeysuckle Family	
# <i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder
Caryophyllaceae Pink Family	
<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved sandwort
* <i>Cerastium scaposum</i>	Cretan mouse-ear
<i>Minuartia hybrida</i>	Fine-leaved sandwort
<i>Petrorhagia velutina</i> (<i>Kohlruschia velutina</i>)	
<i>Silene bellidifolia</i>	
<i>Silene cretica</i>	
<i>Silene colorata</i>	Mediterranean catchfly
<i>Silene gallica</i>	Small-flowered catchfly
<i>Stellaria</i> sp.	chickweed
Chenopodiaceae Goosefoot Family	
<i>Salicornia europaea</i>	Marsh samphire or glasswort
Cistaceae Rockrose Family	
<i>Cistus (incanus</i> ssp.) <i>creticus</i>	Cretan cistus
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>	Sage-leaved cistus
<i>Fumana thymifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved fumana
<i>Tuberaria guttata</i>	Spotted rock-rose
Clusiaceae St John's-wort Family	
<i>Hypericum empetrifolium</i> ssp. <i>empetrifolium</i>	Shrubby St. John's-wort
Convolvulaceae Bindweed Family	
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Bindweed
<i>Convolvulus (althaeoides)</i> <i>elegantissimus</i>	cut leaves, pale in centre of flower
<i>Cuscuta epithymum</i>	Dodder

Crassulaceae Stonecrop Family	
<i>Sedum rubens</i>	
Cruciferae (=Brassicaceae) Cabbage Family	
<i>Aethionema saxatile</i>	Burnt candytuft
<i>Arabis verna</i>	Spring rock-cress
<i>Aubrieta deltoidea</i>	Aubrieta
<i>Biscutella didyma</i>	Buckler mustard
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sea-rocket
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's-purse
<i>Cardaria draba</i>	Hoary cress
<i>Matthiola tricuspidata</i>	Three-horned stock
<i>Nasturtium officinale</i>	Watercress
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	Wild radish
* <i>Ricotia cretica</i>	Ricotia
<i>Sinapis arvensis</i>	Charlock
Cucurbitaceae Cucumber Family	
<i>Ecballium elaterium</i>	Squirting cucumber
<i>Bryonia cretica</i> ssp. <i>cretica</i>	Cretan white bryony
Dipsacaceae Scabious Family	
<i>Knautia integrifolia</i> ssp. <i>mimica</i>	a two-tone scabious
<i>Scabiosa maritima</i>	Mournful widow
Dioscoraceae Yam Family	
<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black bryony
Ericaceae Heather Family	
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry-tree
<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree-heath
Euphorbiaceae Spurge Family	
<i>Euphorbia acanthothamnos</i>	Greek spiny spurge
<i>Euphorbia characias</i>	Mediterranean spurge
<i>Euphorbia dendroides</i>	Tree spurge
<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	Sun spurge
<i>Euphorbia hirsuta</i>	
<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	Sea spurge
# <i>Ricinus communis</i>	Castor oil plant
<i>Mercurialis annua</i>	Annual mercury
Fabaceae (=Leguminosa) Pea Family	
# <i>Acacia cyanophylla</i>	Mimosa / blue-leaved wattle
<i>Anthyllus vulneraria</i> ssp. <i>praepropera</i> (= <i>rubriflora</i>)	Red (Mediterranean) kidney vetch
<i>Bituminaria (Psoralea) bituminosa</i>	Pitch trefoil
<i>Calicotome villosa</i>	Hairy thorny broom
# <i>Cercis siliquastrum</i>	Judas tree
<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	Carob tree
* <i>Ebenus cretica</i>	Shrubby sainfoin (Cretan ebony)
<i>Hedysarum spinosissimum</i>	Spiny sainfoin
<i>Lathyrus setifolius</i>	Brown vetch
<i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	Greater birdsfoot trefoil
<i>Lupinus micranthus</i>	Hairy lupin
<i>Medicago arborea</i>	Tree medick
<i>Medicago arabica</i>	Spotted medick
<i>Medicago marina</i>	Sea medick
<i>Medicago orbicularis</i>	Large disk medick
<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Lucerne NiF
<i>Melilotus sulcatus</i>	Small melilot
<i>Onobrychis caput-galli</i>	Cock's-comb sainfoin
<i>Ononis (natrix) hispanica</i>	Large yellow restharrow
<i>Ononis reclinata</i>	Small restharrow
# <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	False acacia
<i>Scorpiurus muricatus</i>	Scorpiurus
<i>Securigera (Coronilla) parviflora</i>	yellow or pink flowers
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish broom
<i>Tetragonolobus purpureus</i>	Asparagus pea
<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Hop trefoil
<i>Trifolium nigrescens</i>	a common annual white clover

Fabaceae (cont'd)	
<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>	Starry clover
<i>Trifolium tomentosum</i>	Woolly trefoil
<i>Trifolium uniflorum</i>	One-flowered clover
<i>Tripodion (Anthyllis) tetraphyllum</i>	Bladder vetch
<i>Vicia bithynica</i>	Bithynian vetch (two-tone purple & white)
<i>Vicia cretica</i>	
<i>Vicia hybrida</i>	Hairy yellow vetchling
<i>Vicia lutea</i>	Yellow vetch
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common vetch
<i>Vicia villosa</i>	Fodder vetch
Fagaceae Oak Family	
<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	Kermes oak
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holm or evergreen oak
Deciduous oaks on Crete, both doubtfully native, are:	
<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy oak
<i>Quercus ithaburensis</i> ssp. <i>macrolepis</i>	Valonia oak; acorn cups with long, spreading scales
Gentianaceae Gentian Family	
<i>Centaurium pulchellum</i>	Lesser centaury
Geraniaceae Geranium Family	
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common storksbill
<i>Erodium gruinum</i>	Long-beaked storksbill
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved cranesbill
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dovesfoot cranesbill
<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	Little robin
<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved cranesbill
Lamiaceae (=Labiatae) Mint Family	
<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>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	Jerusalem sage
<i>Prasium majus</i>	Spanish hedge-nettle
<i>Salvia fruticosa</i> (formerly <i>S. triloba</i>)	Shrubby or 3-leaved sage
<i>Salvia viridis</i>	Red-topped sage
<i>Satureja (Micromeria) nervosa</i>	
<i>Stachys cretica</i>	Mediterranean woundwort
* <i>Scutellaria sieberi</i>	Cretan skullcap
<i>Teucrium alpestre</i>	
Linaceae Flax Family	
<i>Linum bienne</i>	Pale flax
<i>Linum strictum</i>	tiny, yellow
Lythraceae Loosestrife Family	
<i>Lythrum junceum</i>	
Malvaceae Mallow Family	
<i>Lavatera cretica</i>	Lesser tree mallow
<i>Malva parviflora</i>	Small-flowered mallow
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common mallow
Meliaceae Persian Lilac Family	
# <i>Melia azedarach</i>	Indian bead tree or Persian lilac
Moraceae Fig Family	
<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig
# <i>Morus alba</i>	White mulberry
Oleaceae Olive Family	
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive
Orobanchaceae Broomrape Family	
<i>Orobanche ramosa</i>	Branched broomrape
Oxalidaceae Sorrel Family	
<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Yellow oxalis
# <i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda buttercup

Papaveraceae Poppy Family	
<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	Yellow horned-poppy
<i>Papaver purpureomarginatum</i>	
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common poppy
Pittosporaceae Pittosporum Family	
# <i>Pittosporum tobira</i>	Pittosporum
Plantaginaceae Plantain Family	
<i>Plantago afra</i>	a branched plantain
<i>Plantago bellardii</i>	
<i>Plantago weldenii</i>	like a buckshorn plantain
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort plantain
Platanaceae Plane Tree Family	
<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	Oriental plane
Polygalaceae Milkwort Family	
# <i>Polygala x dalmaisiana</i>	Sweet pea shrub
Polygonaceae Dock Family	
<i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i>	Horned dock
Primulaceae Primrose Family	
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet pimpernel (scarlet and blue forms)
* <i>Cyclamen creticum</i>	Cretan cyclamen
<i>Lysimachia serpyllifolia</i>	a yellow loosestrife
Punicaceae Pomegranate Family	
<i>Punica granatum</i>	Pomegranate
Ranunculaceae Buttercup Family	
<i>Anemone coronaria</i>	Crown anemone
<i>Anemone hortensis</i> ssp. <i>heldreichii</i>	
<i>Nigella damascena</i>	Love-in-a-mist
<i>Ranunculus asiaticus</i>	Turban buttercup
* <i>Ranunculus cupreus</i>	(screes, open stony ground, calcareous)
<i>Ranunculus ophioglossifolius</i>	(fen at Frangocastello)
<i>Ranunculus peltatus</i> ssp. <i>fucoides</i>	Pond water-crowfoot
Resedaceae Mignonette Family	
<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Wild mignonette
Rosaceae Rose Family	
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> ssp. <i>azarella</i>	Hawthorn
# <i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Loquat
<i>Pyrus spinosa</i>	Almond-leaved or wild pear
<i>Rosa sempervirens</i>	
<i>Rubus sanctus</i>	Bramble
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i> ssp. <i>verrucosa</i>	Mediterranean salad burnet
<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	Thorny burnet
Rubiaceae Bedstraw Family	
* <i>Asperula pubescens</i> (<i>A. incana</i>)	showy, pale pink, on calcareous cliffs
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Wild madder
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Field madder
<i>Valantia hispida</i>	
Rutaceae Rue Family	
# <i>Citrus limon</i>	Lemon
# <i>Citrus sinensis</i>	Orange
<i>Ruta chalepensis</i>	Rue
Santalaceae Sandalwood Family	
<i>Osyris alba</i>	Osyris
Saxifragaceae Saxifrage Family	
<i>Saxifraga carpetana</i> ssp. <i>graeca</i>	(Omalós)
Scrophulariaceae Figwort Family	
<i>Bellardia trixago</i>	Bellardia
<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-leaved toadflax
<i>Linaria pelissieriana</i>	Jersey toadflax

Scrophulariaceae (cont'd)	
<i>Misopates orontium</i>	Lesser snapdragon (weasel's snout)
<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	
<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	Yellow bartsia
<i>Scrophularia lucida</i>	Shining figwort
<i>Scrophularia lyrata</i>	a water figwort
<i>Verbascum macrurum</i>	
<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	
<i>Veronica anagallis-aquatica</i>	Water speedwell
<i>Veronica cymbalaria</i>	
Solanaceae Nightshade Family	
<i>Mandragora autumnalis</i>	Mandrake
# <i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	Tree tobacco
<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	Black nightshade
Styracaceae Storax Family	
<i>Styrax officinalis</i>	Storax
Tamaricaceae Tamarix Family	
# <i>Tamarix smyrnensis</i>	Tamarisk
Thymelaeaceae Daphne Family	
<i>Daphne sericea</i>	(pink)
<i>Thymelaea hirsuta</i>	Thymelea
Ulmaceae Elm Family	
<i>Zelcova abelicea</i>	Zelcova or ambelitsiá
Urticaceae Nettle Family	
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory of the wall
<i>Urtica pilulifera</i>	Roman nettle
Valerianaceae Valerian Family	
<i>Centranthus calcitrapae</i>	
* <i>Valeriana asarifolia</i>	Cretan valerian
<i>Valeriana rubra</i>	Red valerian
<i>Valerianella</i> sp.	cornsalad
Verbenaceae Verbena Family	
# <i>Lantana camara</i>	Lantana
<i>Verbena officinalis</i>	Vervain
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Chaste tree
Vitaceae Vine Family	
<i>Vitis vinifera</i>	Grape vine
Monocotyledons	
Agavaceae Agave Family	
# <i>Agave americana</i>	Century plant
Amaryllidaceae Daffodil Family	
<i>Pancratium maritimum</i> NiF	Sea daffodil (leaves only)
Araceae Arum Family	
<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	Friar's cowl
<i>Arum concinatum</i>	
<i>Arum creticum</i>	Cretan arum
<i>Dracunculus vulgaris</i>	Dragon arum
Areceaceae Palm Family	
<i>Phoenix theophrasti</i>	Cretan palm
# <i>Washingtonia filifera</i>	Washingtonia
Iridaceae Iris Family	
<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Field gladiolus
<i>Gynandryis monophylla</i>	
<i>Gynandryis sisyrinchium</i>	Barbary nut
# <i>Iris albicans</i>	
Liliaceae Lily Family	
<i>Asphodeline lutea</i>	Yellow asphodel
<i>Asphodelus ramosus</i> (<i>aestivus</i>)	Common asphodel
<i>Charybdis (Drimia, Urginea) maritima</i>	Sea squill NiF
<i>Gagea graeca</i>	
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel hyacinth
* <i>Muscari spreitzenhoferi</i>	
<i>Ornithogalum exscapum</i>	
<i>Ornithogalum narbonense</i>	a spiked star-of-Bethlehem
* <i>Tulipa (saxatilis) bakeri</i>	(pink, Omalos)
* <i>Tulipa doerfleri</i>	(red, Spili)

Orchidaceae Orchid Family	
<i>Aceras anthropophorum</i>	Man orchid
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal orchid
<i>Limodorum abortivum</i>	Violet birdsnest orchid
<i>Ophrys (fusca) cressa</i>	
<i>Ophrys (scolopax) heldreichii</i>	Marengo orchid
<i>Ophrys episcopalis/holoserica</i>	Bishop's ophrys
<i>Ophrys phryganae</i>	Phrygana orchid – a yellow bee orchid
<i>Ophrys (tenthrudinifera) villosa</i>	Eastern sawfly orchid
<i>Orchis boryi</i>	
<i>Orchis coriophora</i> <i>ssp. fragrans</i>	Bug orchid
<i>Orchis italica</i>	Italian man orchid
<i>Orchis laxiflora</i>	Loose-flowered orchid
<i>Orchis (provincialis) pauciflora</i>	Few-flowered orchid
<i>Orchis quadripunctata</i>	Four-spotted orchid
<i>Orchis simia</i>	Monkey orchid
<i>Orchis sitiaca</i>	
<i>Serapias lingua</i>	Tongue orchid
<i>Serapias orientalis</i>	

Poaceae Grass Family	
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant reed
<i>Avena</i> sp.	an oat
<i>Briza maxima</i>	Greater quaking-grass
<i>Briza minor</i>	Small quaking-grass
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	Hare's-tail
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common reed
Posidoniaceae Sea-grass Family	
<i>Posidonia oceanica</i>	Neptune-weed
Smilacaceae Smilax Family	
<i>Smilax aspera</i>	Common smilax or sarsaparilla
Typhaceae Reedmace Family	
<i>Typha domingensis</i>	