



Honeyguide

WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

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Crete
17 – 24 April 2018

Participants

Katherine Montgomery
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Dawn Stevens
Alice Lester and Pauline Kell
Gail Wilson

Tony and Sandy Langford
George Malcolm and Sonia Donaghy
Eileen and Jimmy Ross
Peter Easingwood and
Susi Lewis-Jones

Leaders

Chris Durdin and Ivan Nethercoat

Report by Ivan Nethercoat with additions and plant list by Chris Durdin.

Photos in this report are by Dawn Stevens (DS), Simon Jones (SJ), Ivan Nethercoat (IN) and Chris Durdin (CD) and were all taken during the holiday.

Cover: a squacco heron comes into land at Ayia Reservoir; turban buttercup, dragon arum (DS), Alibertis's butterfly orchid (CD).

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

Below: the group in Plakias.



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

DAILY DIARY

Tuesday 17 April – Heraklion to Plakias

Eight flying from Gatwick were the first to arrive on Crete, meeting Chris who had just said farewell to the Honeyguide group from the previous week. We took the short walk to the minibus, loaded bags and were soon heading west along the north coast road. We turned by the sign for the Laitis taverna at Fodeli which took us into a lay-by, a lucky mistake as there was a woodchat shrike hunting from a pole so incredibly close to us that we dare not get out of the minibus for fear of disturbing it. The real turn a short hop further took us to the taverna for a generous-sized late lunch of mixed starters.

We made two stops on the journey to Plakias. The first was south of Rethymnon where we looked at the large and scaled acorn cups of valonia oak, along with a nice selection of plants such as tassel hyacinth, the spiked star-of-Bethlehem *Ornithogalum narbonense* and *Allium nigrum*. The second stop was in Kourtoliotiko Gorge where kestrels were flying actively and a few griffon vultures flew over. We dropped down into Plakias, settled into the Hotel Sofia and had our evening meal at Muses taverna.

For the Manchester contingent, wildlife tales were lacking as by the time we collected the vehicles it was dark. Susie saw bats flying down the middle of the road and a white bird suddenly flying over the van was most likely a barn owl but apart from that it was a dark drive and then bed.

Wednesday 18 April – Myrthios and Kanevos

A warm and hazy day and a chance to get to know our local area. Chris and Ivan did a minibus shuffle before breakfast and then we set off to explore the land behind the village leading up to the village of Myrthios, overlooking the bay. Our first scrubby patch allowed us to see some of the commoner local plants as well as some obliging insects. An enormous mammoth wasp dropped in to the area while we looked at Bermuda buttercups, lentisc, pitch trefoil, wild gladiolus, squirting cucumber, branched broomrape and numerous other wayside plants of Greece. Egyptian locusts kept appearing and the sharp-eyed found a couple of amazingly well camouflaged nosey cone-headed grasshoppers. Buzzards explored 'our' valley while high on the cliffs by the gorge griffon vultures soared with little disturbance from the wind.

The temperature was getting very warm as we climbed up onto the tracks part way up the hill when a scan for some 'black and white birds' caused us to find the sight of a purple heron perched in the top of an olive tree, well away from water or reeds. That was a highly unusual place for this generally rather skulking species, suggesting it was a resting migrant. A little farther on and part of the group carried on up the steeper route and four headed back to Plakias to make the ascent in one of the buses. We all met at the Panorama taverna for an excellent lunch.

After lunch it was into the buses to drive through the Kotsiphou gorge and up to the woodland above Kanevos. A convenient pull-in allowed a quick stop to examine the smell of osyris – sandalwood – and we also found pyramidal orchid and the wonderfully named corky-fruited dropwort. Overhead, alpine swifts and griffons were soon joined by the sound of bee-eaters migrating.

On then to the woodland and some welcome shade. We got out at a 'bus stop' conveniently placed alongside a large patch of Cretan cyclamens interspersed with friar's cowl. Nearby were the faded stems of violet bird's-nest orchids, the air was filled with the sound of bees and blackcaps and we were a happy bunch.



Cretan cyclamens (IN) and friar's cowl (CD).

Pictures taken we then took a stroll along the track, slowly and easily climbing out of the woodland to eventually look over a large valley. Serapias were along the trackside, curl buntings and turtle dove sang, an eastern dappled white drifted by. Simon spotted a perched raptor atop a hillock which turned out to be a black kite, not commonly seen on the island. Then back to the hotel and a fine meal at Sirocco taverna.

Thursday 19 April – Phaestos, Ayia Reservoir Triada and Timbaki Lagoons

A pre breakfast stroll along the seafront was a nice start to the day and took us to an area of scrub behind the beach. At a small property we stopped to admire the novel 'sculpting' of the branches of mulberry with rope and rocks positioned to make a shady bower and no doubt aid the picking of the fruit. Just behind the building were two fine whinchats using the fence as a perch to observe insects below.

All quiet, we returned along the sea front until a ripple caught Chris's eye and we stopped, dismissed it, walked on ... then stopped again in amazement as a dolphin slowly surfaced just offshore and disappeared again. We watched for a while and noticed a few locals around us, also somewhat surprised to see this visitor so close in to the shore. Farther out we saw another dolphin.



We weren't just imagining it ... a dolphin's fin in Plakias Bay (IN).

Back at the hotel Jeannie told us they were often in the bay but normally across the far side. After regaling the tale to the rest of the group over breakfast we set off for Phaestos but took everyone to the beach first, stopping farther along the bay and there they were again, even closer in than before and giving everyone very good views of two animals, one distinctly smaller. Looking at the pictures of the rather triangular fin and noting the leisurely behaviour we asked for other opinions and the consensus was that they were likely to be Risso's dolphins.

So, on to Phaestos, one of the top archeological sites on Crete and a good place for Honeyguide too. It is farther east and this year was noticeably drier. It sits on a hill overlooking a very productive area for farming, close to the sea. Nearby is Agia Triada, another important site and a gentle 3km walk away, which several of the group opted to walk to, others going into the archeological site at Phaestos or to the café with views across the valley.

The highlight on the road to Agia Triada was a fabulous flock of some 30 bee-eaters resting and flying around us for ten minutes or so, then moving on north again, good timing! A stone marten was a close second, seen well by four lucky walkers.

Bryony ladybirds were on their squirting cucumber host (photos on p12), while nice examples of castor oil plant and mallow bindweed lined the verges.

After lunch it was a short drive through Timbaki to a small lagoon behind the sea wall. Despite its size this wet patch held great richness due to it still holding water. Thirteen glossy ibises, seven little stints, black winged stilts, greenshank, wood sandpipers, ruff and snipe were all on the lagoon. Added to these were two star birds: a collared pratincole and a circling gull-billed tern.



Collared pratincole, with a ruff in the background, and an obliging woodchat shrike (IN).

A small mixed party of yellow wagtails also dropped in including two black-headed and singles of grey- and blue-headed. Four turtle doves flew in from the sea and onward north. A great little site and one that is now firmly on the itinerary.

Dinner tonight was at Sofia taverna.

Friday 20 April – Kourtaliótiko Gorge and Spili

A very windy night gave way to a very windy morning, but undeterred the pre-breakfast crew set off for the beach at Souda. Despite the wind it was warm at 07:30 and would only get warmer as the day went on.



Campanula tubulosa (CD) and *Ptilostemon chamaepeuce* (DS), both Cretan endemics.

Souda was quiet bird-wise but for a very obliging woodchat shrike. The Cretan palms give an exotic feel to the beach here and it is always a delight to visit. We stopped on the way back for a wonderful display of *Ptilostemon chamaepeuce*, another Cretan endemic.

Breakfast finished and packed lunches made, our destination today started with the impressive gorge at Kourtaliótiko. The fissure cuts through the mountains in a north/south direction, perfect for funnelling already strong winds. There is a convenient layby that gives good views of the cliffs in the morning sunshine as well as easy access to the steps down into the bottom of the gorge. Ravens were nesting and an obliging griffon had stayed behind to give us some nice scope views of this enormous bird. On the distant crags a few more vultures circled and below us a blue rock thrush sang from a hidden and presumably calm corner.

The steps into the gorge are very well constructed but the gusting wind made it a difficult route at times so a few of us stayed back while the intrepid plant seekers carried on. Among the many finds were sheets of ricotia, an endemic crucifer like a tiny honesty, procopiana (Cretan gorge comfrey) by the steps, the usual bellflower *Campanula tubulosa* on the rocks in two places and brookweed in the river where the path ends.

We moved on via a back road to Spili, stopping at the top of a steep climb for impressive views down into a valley with woodland and olive groves as well as a great view back into the gorge. Here joint-pine spread over a rock and there were nice specimens of rue and the two-tone scabious *Knautia integrifolia*.



Walking down into Kourtaliótiko gorge (IN).

Spili town is delightful, with a shaded centre area and an impressive set of fountains providing cool clear drinking water. Here we had lunch and coffee, with blue tits in the oaks and swallows twittering above as they considered the intricacies of nest-making on the walls of cafes and shops.

Presents bought and caffeine taken in we took the road to 'Spili bumps', a fantastic orchid site on an impressive plateau. Here the wind was calmer although still strong, keeping birds down somewhat, but on parking the vehicle we were greeted by woodlark singing from rocks above us along with an ortolan bunting that remained out of view, and spectacular black headed wheatears that stubbornly refused to perch for any length of time.

From the layby it's a short walk to the main bump, a small rocky hillock of uncultivated land, but the route is full of riches, especially for the plant lover. After only a few yards Chris found a new species for him and Honeyguide, a white ophrys, one of the many bee orchid types in the area. In the corner of a small cultivated field the last of the season's wild tulips were still going strong while on the margins 'giant' dragon arums were exploding out of the surrounding vegetation.



Fountains in Spili town (CD); *Tulipa doerfleri* (IN); *Ophrys candica*, white ophrys (CD).

A marsh harrier drifted across the fields, soon followed by a slimmer and more agile female Montagu's harrier. The marsh harrier remained in the area all afternoon, along with corn bunting, whinchat and a singing but elusive curlew.

Orchids today included naked man orchid, Boryi's orchid, Cretan bee orchid, bishop's ophrys and many more. Probably the star find was a fabulous pink butterfly orchid (see photo on cover). Dinner was at Muses taverna.

Saturday 21 April – Ayia Reservoir and Omalós Plateau

A slightly earlier start today with the longest drive of the week, taking us to the north coast and west to the reservoir at Ayia. This small wetland area now has an established reedbed and well vegetated sides, all viewable from a good path, approached via a taverna, a great combination! Above the water were hundreds of sand martins, swallows and swifts, the last both common and alpine, all catching insects or drinking by skimming the surface to take in water, narrowly avoiding the flocks of coots and ducks, including 12 garganeys and a lone pintail.

George's keen eyes noticed a night heron flying past but as the rest of us missed it we set off to see if we could find it among the reeds. We didn't but there was a very close squacco heron as compensation and some terrapins.

Farther along the wall the path overlooks areas of algae and reed stems forming a floating island. From here a very obliging female little crane was walking a circuit that brought it very close by, giving fabulous views and good photographs if you were quick enough.

Several of us drifted back to the café for a coffee but Simon carried on to the end of the wall which overlooks another patch of floating vegetation. A night heron drifted by as the taverna crew headed for refreshment but Simon's lone vigil resulted in great views of a Baillon's crane, with pictures to remind him.



Baillon's crane (SJ); tree frog (IN).

The café garden has lots of plants and bamboo screens and small pools, a place where searching for tree frogs can be successful – today though little searching was needed as there above the bamboo one of the creatures stood out plainly for all to see.

Refreshed, it was time to move on to the plateau at Omalós. Cloud seemed to be building in the mountains and by the time we had made the climb to the plateau the visibility was poor, the wind was high and the temperature distinctly cool. Lunch was had in the relative warmth of the vans by the richest area for flowers (taking advantage of what was seen by last week's group). The wild tulips had mostly gone over, just a few last-lingering flowers, there were deep purple crown anemones and patches of a bright yellow umbellifer, *Chaerophyllum creticum*, which is more or less confined to Omalós, and a few toothed orchids here too.

Turtle doves were calling as we explored the roadside wearing as many layers of clothing as were available, and then it was time for the relative warmth of the café above Samaria gorge where the hillside was in sunshine but the temperature still low. The walk up the steps to the café has some special plants too with wild aubrietia and many Sicilian orchids – newly out as they were not seen the previous week. The view from the balcony is stunning, especially when choughs are in the air.



Overlooking Samaria Gorge from the café (IN).

The route back to the plateau exit took us past a seasonal pool. Stopping here it was clear that this apparently insignificant bit of water was of great value for wildlife: today it provided important food for migrant wheatears, with at least 12 birds being counted, along with a beautiful black-headed wheatear and a whinchat. We were back in Plakias just after 7pm but we still had our dinner at the usual time, just after 8, on this occasion returning to Sirocco taverna which we'd booked in advance knowing we had a later return.

Sunday 22 April – Moní Préveli and Kotsiphos Gorge

A quick pre-breakfast drive to Damnoni beach, partly for the atmosphere, partly as it can be a nice spot for migrant birds and we'd had precious few of those so far. It was slightly less windy but here we were sheltered a little. Swallows were coming in off the sea in small numbers, across the bay a squacco heron was in the early morning sunshine and little ringed plovers ran along the beach, but otherwise all was quiet.

A short drive after breakfast took us to Préveli monastery, another headland and this time sheltered from the wind. The haze had now cleared and the mountains looked fantastic in the bright sun and clear sky. The trickle of swallows before breakfast were the early arrivals of a larger movement as all around us were barn swallows, red-rumped swallows, alpine swifts, house martins and sand martins.

Just below the car park a rough track takes you down to a lower area of headland with craggy outcrops and bushes and a small valley leading to the sea, all sheltered from the northerly wind. A few metres along the track and a long-tailed blue butterfly settled on a twig near the fence. A superb black-eared wheatear popped up to welcome us, giving great views for all. A few more metres and we looked down on a group of bushes and trees with the sun behind us – a good combination that caused us to pause here to see what appeared. And what a pause – spotted flycatchers, two collared flycatchers, turtle dove, buzzard, stonechat, corn bunting and, thanks to Gail's persistence, a lovely view of golden oriole.

During the war the monks at the monastery helped conceal allied troops from the German army, allowing them to be safely rescued. A memorial to the event is along the road nearby where we stopped for a few minutes. Here too swallows and swifts were in abundance, including a good contender for pallid swift.

A short drive back down the road is the 'Turkish' bridge where we stopped for lunch in the shade by the shallow river. Three wood sandpipers fed eagerly a few metres away while blue southern skimmer dragonflies settled on the banks.



Wood sandpipers by the 'Turkish' bridge; long tailed blue (IN).

The afternoon was our 'free' period for those that wanted it so a few returned to Plakias and eight stayed on for more nature, this time taking a short drive to the other side of the gorge to explore a road that looked interesting. The wind now was 'normal' and the sun was hot but the atmosphere here was delightful. An insignificant roadside pond held great riches with hundreds of Cretan marsh frog tadpoles and numerous wary adults. Blue tailed damselflies danced over the water and a scarlet darter landed briefly on a reed stem. The damp ground nearby also had some interesting plants but the star species was perhaps a larger than normal tongue orchid. Overhead could be heard the sound of bee-eaters again, remaining out of sight, but as we drove further along the road a small flock was found feeding around a farm. A large green lizard scuttled across the road and a turtle dove complemented the 'chirruping' of the bee-eaters as they fed up before continuing their journey north. Golden oriole called here, too.

Tonight was the first of two nights eating at the excellent Tasomanolis fish taverna.

Monday 23 April – Frangocastello and the road west

A beautiful calm and clear morning and a small pre-breakfast crew set off to explore the headland at Damnoni. Blue rock thrush and black-eared wheatear were perhaps the best species but the sparrows on the rocks were great characters and blue tit and great tit on the rocks seemed slightly out of place. A small party of wagtails flew into the bay from the sea, more migration happening.



At Frangocastello (IN).

After breakfast the destination was west to Frangocastello, stopping a short way along the road at a site on the edge of Kotsiphou we knew can hold Rüppell's warbler. The previous week the birds had not yet returned so we were not sure what to expect here but the arrival of the bee-eaters elsewhere (also not seen the previous week) boded well. Chukar and black-eared wheatear were first up and then, singing from the top of a large boulder was a male Rüppell's warbler. As he went from singing to feeding he gave everyone good views in the telescope and then came down below us. On the crags nearby griffon vultures circled and one nest was occupied by an adult with chick, visible with the telescope.

With that success it was time to head west again along the coast road. With the sea, cliffs and bays to our left and the mountain ridge to our right it was a delightful drive, enhanced by a couple of bee-eaters on wires.

Frangocastello is an old Venetian fort sitting in a flat plain on the coast. Our walk took us on a track overlooking the sea on one side and open scrubby fields to the other. The fields were yellow with flowers and overhead swallows, swifts and martins fed on the abundant insects. In among the flock Simon spotted a lone pallid swift, showing well in the clear light.

Meanwhile, on the other side George spotted some gulls near what he assumed was a dead seal. Through the telescope, though, the shape was more reminiscent of a turtle. A gull landed on the back of the animal, reinforcing our thinking that it was dead. Turning away to get Chris to have a look, when we looked again the gulls were there but no 'dead' animal. I assumed that was that, when a gull sat on the back of a loggerhead turtle. Pictures of similar incidents can be seen courtesy of your favourite search engine, although this was a long way away. As we looked for this again Chris put a red-veined darter in the telescope and a purple heron drifted by landing on rocks in front of us. The area has its oddities in the plant area too, one being mandrake which was now very dry and shrivelled and the other, wild caper plants, perhaps originating from a garden but looking to be doing well on the cliff.



Red-veined darter: the blue underside to the eye is a useful ID feature (CD); and scarlet darter (IN).

Two more purple herons drifted by and landed on the same rocks as we headed back toward the minibuses. On the way was a favourite taverna, mainly because of its ample shade and fabulous views over the sea. From here three squacco herons could be seen flying close inshore and landing on rocks nearby where they 'melted' into the background.

After lunch we headed down to the beach where a small pool of fresh water forms, lined with giant reeds. A stunning scarlet darter proclaimed his territory here, resting on the reeds and giving excellent views in the telescope. Slightly less spectacular but new for the list was a winter damselfly also resting nearby. Tiger beetles scuttled across the sand as we walked on to the shoreline. The balls of dead sea grass, affectionately known as 'nun's farts' littered the shoreline while far out at sea and against the light a Yelkouan shearwater drifted by – it's fair to say the view could have been better. The circular route took us to a path lined with wildflowers leading up to a wonderfully messy area of bushes and bindweed where stonechats and whitethroat were busy catching insects.

The drive back was in that glorious late afternoon sun that lights up a landscape, especially now the shadows of clouds danced on the hillsides. The winding route was suddenly brought to a halt as a cloud of bee-eaters appeared at the head of a small valley. As we left the bus we were bathed in warmth, light and the now familiar sound of bee-eaters but this time in bigger numbers than before. When the flock eventually moved on there were 70+ birds in the air, drifting high and continuing north – this moment was not surprisingly named in the group's highlights.

Our little stop for ortolan bunting was successful in us hearing the bird well but it remained distant and elusive. The 'Beethoven's Fifth' phrasing now firmly in our heads we headed back to the hotel, stopping for a few pictures of Plakias in its landscape and taking a detour down the winding road from Sellia to bring us in to the town from the west.

Our last meal was at our favourite taverna Tasomanolis, great food, mixed success on the music front for Simon and Chris with a miniature guitar but certainly shared memories.



Bee-eater (IN).

HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

Jimmy	Being 'transported' to Crete; the place and the atmosphere; telescope views.
Eileen	The telescope views.
Gail	'Gubby' and the golden oriole.
Dawn	Telescope views, the gloss on the glossy ibis, the dragonflies.
Pauline	Bee eaters on the last day, scarlet darter.
Sandy	The look on Chris's face when there was a positive ID.
Tony	The landscape, bee-eaters on the last day and 'Gubby'.
Alice	Yellow wagtails at Timbaki.
Peter	The landscape and the bee-eaters.
Susi	Bee-eaters and little crake.
Katherine	Bee-eaters on the last day, the sound and the atmosphere.
Simon	The Montagu's harrier at Spili.
Sonia	Few-flowered and pink butterfly orchids and the 'squatting squacco'.
George	The 'dead' turtle and golden oriole.
Ivan	Bee-eaters on the last day; seeing how Crete has got better since my last visit.
Chris	The dolphins; Alibertis's pink butterfly orchid.

Tuesday 24 April– homeward bound

Another hot day with a normal Crete breeze. Red-rumped swallows and reed warblers had dropped in behind the town for the early strollers but most of us were involved in last minute packing for the return trip home. After breakfast group photos were taken and those flying back to Gatwick headed off, stopping for a while in Kourtaliótiko where griffons and choughs were enjoyed one last time but no new birds seen.

The Manchester contingent had a later schedule so after seeing off the Gatwick crew we headed off for a leisurely day before our evening flight. Initial plans were rapidly changed when we found the road closed to get us to the bay, so we headed west and up the road to Sellia which brought us eventually to the mouth of Kotsiphou Gorge. The cliffs and hills here were bathed in glorious sunshine and griffon vultures were both on the wing and tending young but the lammergeier remained elusive.

Onward to Kourtaliótiko gorge and the start of our journey north. The first viewpoint was decidedly calmer than last time we were here. Ravens and kestrels tussled over territory, but the skies felt 'quiet' for birds of prey. Driving on to the next viewpoint there was suddenly much more activity with several griffons in the air together. George's sharp eyes then spotted a different shape in the sky and here was a superb adult Bonelli's eagle, with its whitish body and dark wings. This is a distinctive species and a rare bird in Europe, but Crete is one area where they are hanging on. A great way to end the trip.

A quick stop at the gorge's final layby and a sample of the freshly hand-squeezed orange juice (raki from the local chaps putting the world to right was declined) and still no lammergeier. So we took the back road to Spili and found a delightful family-run tavern offering a fabulous fruit salad with honey and yoghurt.



Three-horned stock *Matthiola tricuspidata* (CD).

Refreshed and a little sad, it was time to head north toward the airport. On the north coast the main road to Heraklion crosses high over the Geropotamus river but alongside this bridge is a track to the beach. Here we stopped for a brief leg-stretch and last opportunity for some wildlife. A great reed warbler greeted us in song along with the more familiar reed warbler and Cetti's. A short walk over the beach, with sea holly and delightful three-horned stocks, took us to the river-mouth, from where we could see back into the river where the great reed warbler briefly showed (thanks George) and a little crake scuttled across to the other side, only briefly reappearing. Scarlet darters sat on the sand and terrapins basked in the sun. A pleasant stop before the last 50 minutes to the airport.

Thank you for your company, your eyes and your enthusiasm. You made a difference, with £1360 going directly to conservation on the island thanks to your contributions.

WILDLIFE LISTS

BIRDS

Little grebe	Several at Ayia Reservoir on 21 st .
Yelkouan shearwater	One distant from Frangocastello.
Cormorant	One from Frangocastello on 23 rd .
Squacco heron	One in Damnoni bay, two at Ayia Reservoir, 3 on the shore at Frangocastello.
Night heron	One in river at Plakias on the 18 th and one at Ayia Reservoir.
Little egret	Small numbers on several days.
Grey heron	One at Ayia Reservoir.
Purple heron	One rather unexpectedly sat on top of an olive tree behind Plakias. 2 at Frangocastello.
Mute swan	One at Ayia Reservoir.
Pintail	One male at Ayia Reservoir.
Garganey	12 males at Ayia Reservoir.
Black kite	One in the valley above the cyclamen wood near Kanevos.
Griffon vulture	Seen every day at gorges and over mountains.
Marsh harrier	One west of Plakias one at Ayia Reservoir and one at Spili bumps.
Montagu's harrier	One ring-tail at Spili bumps. Another flew in front of the van on the return from Omalós.
Common buzzard	Small numbers each day.
Bonelli's eagle	One adult in Kourtaliótiko Gorge on 24 th .
Kestrel	Small numbers daily.
Chukar	Heard calling on the road to Agia Triada and seen near Kotsiphou gorge.
Little crane	One female at Ayia Reservoir and one at Geropotamus river-mouth.
Baillon's crane	One male at Ayia Reservoir.
Moorhen	Small numbers at Katalyki wetland near Timbaki, Ayia Reservoir and Geropotamus.
Coot	Many at Ayia Reservoir.
Black-winged stilt	5 at Katalyki wetland, Timbaki.
Collared pratincole	One at Katalyki wetland.
Little ringed plover	Seen regularly on the beaches at Plakias, Damnoni & Geropotamus, & Katalyki wetland.
Little stint	Several Katalyki wetland.
Ruff	One at Katalyki wetland.
Green sandpiper	One at Katalyki wetland.
Wood sandpiper	Katalyki wetland.
Yellow-legged gull	Common.
Gull-billed tern	One at Katalyki wetland.
Feral pigeon	Seen every day.
Woodpigeon	Seen every day.
Collared dove	Seen every day.
Turtle dove	Singles calling at Plakias, Omalós, Kanevos. 4 birds in off the sea at Katalyki.
Barn owl	One flew over the van on the way from the airport on the North coast.
Common swift	Numerous at Ayia Reservoir on 24 th .
Pallid swift	One at Frangocastello and one probable at Moní Préveli memorial.
Alpine swift	Small numbers seen and heard at the gorges during each visit, also at Moní Préveli, Festos and Ayia Reservoir.
Bee-eater	Seen on several occasions with c30 birds feeding on the Agia Triada road and c70+ on the return from Frangocastello. Smaller numbers elsewhere & others heard but not seen.
Crested lark	Small numbers in various places, especially Frangocastello area.
Woodlark	Singing birds at Spili bumps, Moní Préveli and Frangocastello.
Sand martin	A few migrants on several dates, many at Ayia Reservoir.
Crag martin	In the gorges.
Swallow	Common migrant.
Red-rumped swallow	Seen at Plakias, Moní Préveli.
House martin	Migrants seen in small numbers most days.
Tree pipit	Small numbers of migrants heard and sometimes seen most days.
Yellow wagtail	One <i>flavissima</i> type at Turkish bridge. A small flock flew into Katalyki wetland consisting of 2 black-headed, one-blue headed and one-grey headed.
White wagtail	Not seen often, confirmed at Damnoni.
Wren	Heard singing in gorges and mountains.
Whinchat	Plakias, Phaestos, Moní Préveli, Frangocastello.
Stonechat	Fairly common.
Northern wheatear	12 at Omalós Plateau.
Black-eared wheatear	Moní Préveli, Kotsiphou and Damnoni.
Blue rock thrush	Moní Préveli, Kotsiphou, and Damnoni.
Blackbird	Small numbers each day.
Cetti's warbler	Heard every day.
Sedge warbler	Heard at Ayia Reservoir.
Reed warbler	Plakias, Geropotamus.
Great reed warbler	Geropotamus river.
Sardinian warbler	Seen/heard most days.
Rüppell's warbler	Near Kotsiphou gorge.
Whitethroat	Frangocastello.
Blackcap	Heard on several days.
Wood warbler	One seen briefly at Moní Préveli.

Spotted flycatcher	Frangocastello.
Collared flycatcher	2 males at Moní Préveli.
Blue tit	Seen on several occasions.
Great tit	Widespread.
Golden oriole	An immature male feeding from bushes at Frangocastello.
Woodchat shrike	One at Souda, others across the island.
Jay	One at Omalós.
Chough	Kourtaliótiko gorge, Samaria gorge.
Jackdaw	Seen most days.
Hooded crow	Seen each day.
Raven	Seen most days.
Italian sparrow	Numerous across the island.
Chaffinch	Seen across the island.
Greenfinch	Seen most days.
Goldfinch	Seen most days.
Linnet	Seen most days.
Girl bunting	Heard above Kanevos, Omalós.
Ortolan bunting	Heard at both Spili bumps and on the road from Frangocastello.
Corn bunting	Spili bumps, Frangocastello, Kotinos.

AMPHIBIANS, REPTILES AND FISH		
Common tree frog	Cretan marsh frog	Erhard's wall lizard
Balkan green lizard	Balkan (Stripe-necked) terrapin	Grey mullet
MAMMALS		
	Risso's dolphin	Beech (stone) marten
BUTTERFLIES AND A MOTH		
Swallowtail	Cleopatra	Small copper
Scarce swallowtail	Southern comma	Long-tailed blue
Cretan festoon	Painted lady	Holly blue
Large white	Red admiral	Brown argus
Small white	Meadow brown	Common blue
Eastern dappled white	Southern speckled wood	Lulworth skipper
Clouded yellow	Wall brown	Pine processionary moth
BEES		
<i>Apis mellifera</i> honeybee		<i>Chalicodoma sicula</i> rock mason bee
<i>Bombus terrestris</i> buff-tailed bumblebee (but white-tailed in Crete!)		<i>Osmia signata</i> a mason bee
		<i>Xylocopa violacea</i> violet carpenter bee
WASPS, FLIES AND BUGS		
<i>Polistes gallicum</i> a paper wasp	<i>Lomatia</i> sp. a bee fly	<i>Aquarius najas</i> a large pondskater
<i>Megascolia flavifrons</i> (<i>maculata</i>) a mammoth wasp	<i>Glyphosoma italicum</i> 'Millwall bug'	<i>Spilostethus (Lygaeus) pandurus</i> a black and red ground bug
BEETLES		
<i>Oxythyrea cinctella</i> a black-and-white flower chafer		<i>Henosepilachna elaterii</i> Gourd or bryony ladybird
<i>Cicindela littoralis</i> a tiger beetle		<i>Ocyopus olens</i> devil's coach horse
<i>Coccinella 7-punctata</i> seven-spotted ladybird		
ODONATA		
<i>Orthetrum brunneum</i> Southern Skimmer		<i>Ischnura elegans</i> Blue-tailed Damselfly
<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i> Scarlet Darter (Broad Scarlet)		<i>Caleopteryx splendens</i> ssp. <i>Cretensis</i> Banded Demoiselle
<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i> Red-veined Darter		<i>Sympetma fusca</i> Winter Damselfly
<i>Anax imperator</i> Emperor (Blue Emperor)		
ORTHOPTERA		
Cretan bright bush-cricket <i>Poecilimon cretensis</i>		<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i> Egyptian grasshopper
Nosey cone-headed grasshopper <i>Truxalis nasuta</i>		
OTHER INVERTEBRATES		
		Cretan door snail <i>Albinaria (corrugata) inflata</i>



Nosey cone-headed grasshopper (IN); bryony ladybird and larvae on squirting cucumber (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 Aizoon Family	
# <i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Hottentot fig
Anacardiaceae Pistacio Family	
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastic tree or lentisc
Apiaceae (=Umbelliferae) Carrot Family	
<i>Apium nidiflorum</i>	Fool's watercress
<i>Anthriscus caucalis</i>	Bur chervil
* <i>Chaerophyllum creticum</i>	at Omalós
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Chicory
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i> NiF	Rock samphire
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild carrot
<i>Ferula communis</i> ssp. <i>communis</i>	Giant fennel
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel
<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i>	Corky-fruited water dropwort
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's needle
<i>Smyrniolum perfoliatum</i> ssp. <i>rotundifolium</i>	Perfoliate alexanders
<i>Tordylium apulum</i> NiF	Mediterranean hartwort
Asteraceae (Compositae) Daisy Family	
<i>Anthemis chia</i>	Mayweed
<i>Anthemis rigida</i> ssp. <i>rigida</i>	Rayless chamomile
<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> NiF	Aromatic inula
<i>Echinops spinosissimus</i>	Spiny globe thistle
<i>Filago (Evax) pygmaea</i>	Evax
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Mediterranean thistle
<i>Helichrysum (stoechas</i> ssp.) <i>barrelieri</i>	Curry-plant

Asteraceae (cont'd)	
<i>Notobasis syriaca</i>	
<i>Pallenis (Asteriscus) spinosus</i>	Spiny golden star
<i>Phagnalon graecum</i>	Shrubby cudweed
<i>Ptilostemon chamaepeuce</i>	
<i>Scorzonera cretica</i>	Cretan viper's-grass
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk thistle
* <i>Stachelina arborea</i> NiF	
<i>Tragopogon sinuatus (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 (azurea)</i>	Large blue alkanet
<i>Borago officinalis</i>	Borage
<i>Cerinthe 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>Myosotis</i> sp.	a forget-me-not
<i>Onosma erecta</i>	a goldendrop, Omalós
<i>Symphytum creticum (Procopiana cretica)</i>	Procopiana or Cretan gorge comfrey
Cactaceae Cactus Family	
# <i>Opuntia ficus-barbarica (O. ficus-indica)</i>	Prickly pear
Campanulaceae Bellflower Family	
<i>Campanula erinus</i>	
* <i>Campanula tubulosa</i>	
<i>Legousia speculum-veneris</i>	Large Venus's looking-glass
* <i>Petromarula pinnata</i>	Cretan wall lettuce
* <i>Solenopsis minuta</i> ssp. <i>annua (Laurentia gasparrinii)</i>	
Capparaceae Caper Family	
<i>Capparis spinosa</i>	Caper
Caprifoliaceae Honeysuckle Family	
# <i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder
Caryophyllaceae Pink Family	
<i>Agrostemma githago</i>	Corn cockle
* <i>Cerastium scaposum</i>	Cretan mouse-ear
<i>Petrorrhagia velutina (Kohlruschia velutina)</i>	
<i>Silene cretica</i>	
<i>Silene colorata</i>	Mediterranean catchfly
<i>Silene gallica</i>	Small-flowered catchfly
<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder campion
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

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) elegantissimus</i>	cut leaves, pale in centre of flower
<i>Cuscuta epithymum</i>	Dodder
Crassulaceae Stonecrop Family	
<i>Sedum creticum</i> NiF	
<i>Sedum rubens</i>	
<i>Umbilicus horizontalis</i>	Navelwort / wall pennywort
<i>Umbilicus parviflorus</i>	Small-flowered navelwort
Cruciferaeae (=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>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
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
Ericaceae Heather Family	
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry-tree
<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree-heath
Euphorbiaceae Spurge Family	
<i>Euphorbia acanthothamnus</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>Anthyllus hermanniae</i>	(spiny broom-like bush)
<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>Coronilla globosa</i>	
* <i>Ebenus cretica</i>	Shrubby sainfoin (Cretan ebony)
<i>Lathyrus aphaca</i>	Yellow vetchling
<i>Lathyrus setifolius</i>	Brown vetch
<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
<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

Fabaceae (cont'd)	
<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
<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 lutea</i>	Yellow vetch
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common vetch
<i>Vicia tetrasperma/parviflora</i>	a tare with hairless seedpods
<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 lucidum</i>	Shining 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>Lavandula stoechas</i>	French lavender
<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>Satureja (Micromeria) nervosa</i>	
<i>Stachys cretica</i>	Mediterranean woundwort
* <i>Scutellaria sieberi</i>	'Cretan' skullcap
Linaceae Flax Family	
<i>Linum arboreum</i>	Tree flax
<i>Linum bienne</i>	Pale flax
<i>Linum strictum</i>	tiny, yellow
Lythraceae Loosestrife Family	
<i>Lythrum hyssopifolia</i>	Grass poly
<i>Lythrum junceum</i>	
Malvaceae Mallow Family	
<i>Lavatera cretica</i>	Lesser tree 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 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 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>Samolus valerandi</i>	Brookweed
Punicaceae Pomegranate Family	
<i>Punica granatum</i>	Pomegranate
Ranunculaceae Buttercup Family	
<i>Anemone coronaria</i>	Crown anemone
<i>Nigella damascena</i>	Love-in-a-mist
<i>Ranunculus asiaticus</i>	Turban buttercup
* <i>Ranunculus cupreus</i>	(scree, open stony ground, calcareous)
<i>Ranunculus neapolitanus</i> (= <i>R. bulbosus</i> ssp. <i>aleae</i>)	(reflexed sepals)
<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>Rubus sanctus</i>	Bramble
<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	Thorny burnet
Rubiaceae Bedstraw Family	
* <i>Asperula pubescens</i> (<i>A. incana</i>)	showy, pale pink, on calcareous cliffs
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers
<i>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 pelisseriana</i>	Jersey toadflax
<i>Misopates orontium</i>	Lesser snapdragon (weasel's snout)
<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	
<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	Yellow bartsia

Scrophulariaceae (cont'd)	
<i>Scrophularia lucida</i>	Shining figwort
<i>Scrophularia lyrata</i>	a water figwort (fen at Frangocastello)
* <i>Verbascum arcturus</i>	Hanging mullein
<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 NiF
Styracaceae Storax Family	
<i>Styrax officinalis</i>	Storax
Tamaricaceae Tamarix Family	
# <i>Tamarix smyrnensis</i>	Tamarisk
Thymelaeaceae Daphne Family	
<i>Thymelaea hirsuta</i>	Thymelea
Ulmaceae Elm Family	
<i>Zelcova abelicea</i>	Zelcova or ambelitsiá
Urticaceae Nettle Family	
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory of the wall
<i>Urtica membranacea</i>	Membranous nettle
<i>Urtica pilulifera</i>	Roman nettle
Valerianaceae Valerian Family	
<i>Centranthus calcitrapae</i>	
* <i>Valeriana asarifolia</i>	Cretan valerian
<i>Valerianella echinata</i>	a cornsalad, Omalós
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>	Sea daffodil NiF
Araceae Arum Family	
<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	Friar's cowl
<i>Arum concinnum</i>	
* <i>Arum idaeum</i>	Cretan arum
<i>Arum creticum</i>	Cretan arum
<i>Dracunculus vulgaris</i>	Dragon arum
Arecaceae Palm Family	
# <i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	Canary date palm
<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 sisyrynchium</i>	Barbary nut
<i>Iris</i> (was <i>Hermodactylus</i>) <i>tuberosus</i>	Widow iris
# <i>Iris albicans</i>	
Liliaceae Lily Family	
<i>Allium nigrum</i>	
<i>Asphodeline lutea</i>	Yellow asphodel
<i>Asphodelus ramosus</i> (<i>aestivus</i>)	Common asphodel
<i>Charybdis</i> (<i>Drimia</i> , <i>Urginea</i>) <i>maritima</i>	Sea squill
<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</i> (<i>saxatilis</i>) <i>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>	Cressa ophrys
<i>Ophrys candida</i>	White ophrys
<i>Ophrys cretica</i>	Cretan bee orchid
<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 sicula</i>	Sicilian orchid, another yellow bee orchid, Omalós
<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 (papilionacea) alibertis</i>	Alibertis's butterfly orchid
<i>Orchis tridentata</i>	Toothed orchid
<i>Serapias bergonii (S. vomeracea ssp. laxiflora)</i>	Bergon's tongue-orchid
<i>Serapias lingua</i>	Tongue orchid
<i>Serapias (vomeraceae) orientalis</i>	Eastern tongue orchid

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