

CRETE REPORT 1996
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WEATHER

The weather held no surprises this year with a mild Spring with no bad weather to cause any 'falls'. The winter rains were quite good and there was more water in the rivers than usual in April and the Lassithi turlough or swallowhole was the biggest I have seen it in fifteen years of visits. Summer and Autumn followed the usual pattern of hot and dry.

RECORDS

This year has produced some interesting counts with 271 Coot being reported at Agia reservoir in October and 55 Ferruginous Duck there on 25th October. Mute Swans bred and produced 6 young. Two Shelduck were seen in May. Breeding records were suspected for Wryneck, and Hoopoe and were proved for Serin, Nightingale and Tree Sparrow. A Cattle Egret was recorded and this species is expected to expand its territory as it has elsewhere in the Mediterranean.

On Passage three Egyptian Vultures were recorded and a wintering Imperial Eagle at Bramianos Reservoir was seen in February. Passage waders included Greater Sand Plover, Grey and Golden Plover, Black and Bar-tailed Godwit and the third record of a White-tailed Plover on the island. After last year's Red-necked Phalarope which is now known to have been videoed, then another one turned up this year again, this time in April, when a male was watched spinning for food. Four Lesser Short-toed Larks were reported and if accepted this could be a second record for Crete and Greece.

Thanks again to all those who have submitted records. Please help by encouraging everyone to submit records in the following order with date, place and numbers seen together with a short summary of the weather conditions during your visit. Description records of rare birds can be sent in on special forms available from the address on the cover, or using the standard format as in Birdwatcher's Year Book.

RB - Resident Breeder

PM - Passage Migrant

MB - Migrant Breeder

WV - Winter Visitor

OB - Occasional Breeder

AV - Accidental Visitor

SYSTEMATIC LIST of BIRDS RECORDED IN 1996

Please note that these records are printed subject to verification

English and Scientific names and sequence of birds follow 'Birds of Greece' Handrinos / Akriotis 1997.

LITTLE GREBE *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

PM RB WV

Only small numbers in Spring with 2-6 at the usual 4 sites, of Georgioupolis, Agia reservoir, Lake Kournas and Bramianos Reservoir. Breeding suspected at Agia reservoir and Georgioupolis lake but proven at Bramianos reservoir where parents were feeding young 28.8. Up to 6 young mid September, total of 39 young and adults 11.9. 10 Agia reservoir 30.9. and 10 Bramianos reservoir in October. 271 Agia reservoir 21.10.

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GREAT-CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus* WV
 A single off Hersonissos 9.2. (CJH)

BLACK-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps nigricollis* PM WV
 Winter peak of 19 Bramianos reservoir 19.2. Small numbers in
 Spring at Bramianos reservoir, Lake Kournas, Agia reservoir.
 Max 11 Lake Kournas 16.4. 3 there 3.5. was a late record.

CORY'S SHEARWATER *Calonectris diomedea* PM MB
 Small numbers offshore during April off Analypsis, Rethymnon,
 Georgiopolis, Grandes Bay. 20 off Kato Zakros 22.4. Max:
 100's off Hersonissos 1.5. Autumn records 1 off Plakias 15.7. and
 reported off Almiritha 28.9.

MEDITERRANEAN SHEARWATER *Puffinus yelkouan* PM MB
 A few offshore from Falasarna 18.4. 20 off Xerocampas 25.5. 20 off
 Kato Zakros 29.4. and 20 flew west Grandes Bay 30.4.

CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax carbo* PM WV
 5 on rocks at Vai 25.4. 1 Agia reservoir 25.10.

SHAG *Phalacrocorax aristotelis* RB
 10 Falasarna 18.4. 1 off Vai 25.4. 3 there 27.4.

WHITE PELICAN *Pelicanus onocrotalus*
 Presumed tame 1 Sitia 10.4. and 23.4.

LITTLE BITTERN *Ixobrychus minutus* PM
 1-3 recorded 10.4. - 19.5, Platanos. 10.4, Agia reservoir
 16. 4.-19.5, Limnes Pool 23.4, Skoutelonas 25.4. and 16.5,
 Almyros 25.4. Geros river 27.4, Agia Galini 13.5,
 Georgiopolis 19.5.
 Autumn records of up to 4 at Bramianos reservoir 7.9. -12.9.

NIGHT HERON *Nycticorax nycticorax* PM
 First record 1 Aposelemis 26.3. then records from Tersanas
 Marsh 4.4. Elounda 9.4. Sitia river 10.4. Petres Gorge 16.4.
 Agia reservoir 18.4. 8 in off the sea at Plakias 19.4.
 Tavronitis river 19.4. Kato Zakros 27.4. 32 flew east at
 Makryialos 29.4. 3 Thrapsano 1.5. where still present 18.6.
 Autumn: 12 Bramianos 7.9. 1 Agia reservoir 30.9, 15 Almiritha
 6.10.

SQUACCO HERON *Ardeola ralloides* PM
 First record 3. Bramianos reservoir 8.4. Then small numbers at
 20 sites to 10.5, A single Thrapsano 18.6.
 Autumn records 5 at Agia reservoir 20.8. Up to 3 Bramianos
 reservoir 4.10. to 5.10.

CATTLE EGRET *Bubulus ibis*
 A single Geros river 28.4. (IJR)

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta* PM
 A single Hania harbour 1.4. others Tersanas Pond and Marsh

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8.4. 20 Frangocastello 15.4. Numbers then remained low until 20. 4. when small groups appeared at Plakias and Georgioupolis. 12 Kato Zakros 23.4. 106 Plakias 27.4. 30 Agia Galini 30.4. and singles to 20.5. 2 Agia reservoir 21.10. and 3 there 28.10.
Autumn: 40 east of Sitia 6.9. 12 Bramianos reservoir 12.9. 25 Agia reservoir 4.10. A partially melanistic bird at Bramianos reservoir 4.10. (PW).

GREAT WHITE EGRET *Egretta alba*

PM

A single over Plakias 21.4. and 1 Kato Zakros 29.4. were the only records.

GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea*

PM

Spring: 2 Aposelemis river 7.4. 8 Bramianos reservoir 7.4. 1-4 Phaestos, Malia, Georgioupolis Lake, Plakias 12.4. to 19.4. 13 Karaka beach 22.4. Singles at Tavronitis river, Keridis, Agia reservoir, Georgioupolis lake, Kato Zakros to 29.4. A late bird was a single at Tavronitis river 19.5.
Autumn: 6 Bramianos reservoir 6.9. Recorded Agia reservoir, Almiritha 25.9. Groups of 40-50-45 flying south over Almiritha 26.9. 36 south 27.9. and 25 on 6.10.

PURPLE HERON *Ardea purpurea*

PM

First record 1 Thrapsano 1.4. 13 Bramianos reservoir 8.4. Singles Limnes pool 11.4. Moni Prevelli valley 13.4. 9 Frangocastello 15.4. where 16 came in from the sea 22.4. 1 Plakias 23.4. 40 Damnoni 17.4. up to 4 Kato Zakros 23.4. - 27.4. Singles at Plakopyles beach 24.4. Agia reservoir 4.5. and Aposelemis 11.5.
Autumn: 25 Malia marsh 2.9. 4 Aposelemis 6.9. 1 there 2.10. 1 at Bramianos reservoir 5.10, 2 Karteros 11.10.

BLACK STORK *Ciconia nigra*

PM

1 Almiritha 27.9. (P.S.) 1 Bramianos reservoir 4.-5.10. (PW)
2 east of Malia 7.10. (RJ).

WHITE STORK *Ciconia ciconia*

PM

A single Bramianos reservoir 7.-12.9. (HMB, JRK)

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus*

PM

25 Power station 2.3. 23 there 11.3. Then numerous during April. 57 Thrapsano 1.4. 2 Aposelemis river 6.4. 29 Bramianos reservoir 8.4. Singles Malia 12.4. Plakias beach 14.4. when 19 also flew east at Frangocastello. 7 in off the sea Plakias 20.4. 100 arrived at Paleochora 27.4. Small numbers Agia reservoir, Kouremenos, Analysis to end of month. 7 at Phaestos 1.5.
Autumn: A single at Agia reservoir 30.9. and 25.10.

MUTE SWAN *Cygnus olor*

AV

A pair successfully reared 6 young Agia reservoir 18.5. but only 4 cygnets were recorded with the adults by 30.9. 6 adults flew east of Almiritha 2.10. An adult with 6 immatures was still present at Agia reservoir in October.

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SHELDUCK *Tadorna tadorna*
2 Tersanas pond 30.5. (CJH).

AV

WIGEON *Anas penelope* WV
Winter max: 14 Bramianos reservoir 17.2. April 6 Bramianos reservoir
8.4. 6 Agia reservoir 18.4.

GADWALL *A. strepera* WV
No records in 1996

TEAL *Anas crecca* WV
Winter max: 419 Bramianos reservoir 17.2. April 10 Bramianos
reservoir 8.4. 3 there 25.4. 2 Agia reservoir 25.10.
Autumn: 20 Bramianos reservoir 5.8. 81 there 8.9. and 20 in
October. 4 Agia reservoir 20.8. 1 there 30.9. and 15 there
21.10.

MALLARD *Anas platyrhynchos* WV
Winter max. 78 Bramianos reservoir 16.2.
In April a single there 8.4. 2 Platanes 11.4. 1 Agia reservoir
20.4. 2 there 16.5.
Autumn: 22 Bramianos reservoir 8.9. 13 there 14.10. 6 Agia
reservoir 25.10.

PINTAIL *Anas acuta* WV
14 Bramianos reservoir 15.2. 90 Lassithi plateau 25.3. 7
Aposelemis 11. and 13.3.
A single at Gouves lagoon 3.4. 5 there 4.4. back to a single
by 7.4. 5 Agia reservoir 16.4.
There were no Autumn records.

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula* PM
2 Bramianos reservoir 17.2. 17 Aposelemis river 21.3. 35 Lassithi
plateau 25.3. 45 Thrapsano 1.4. 20 Bramianos reservoir 8.4. 17 Agia
reservoir 18.4. Then smaller numbers to 7.5. at Tersanas Pond,
Gouves Lagoon, Georgioupolis Lake, Agia reservoir, Plakopoyles,
Tavronitis river, Thrapsano, Malia.
Autumn: 11 Agia reservoir 11.8. 3 Thrapsano 14.8. 3 Georgioupolis
Lake 18.8, -24.8. 100 Bramianos reservoir 25.8. and 5.9. down to 3 in
October. Last records were 2 at Thrapsano 11.10.

SHOVELER *Anas clypeata* WV
Winter: 3 Bramianos reservoir 16.2.
Spring: 5 Aposelemis 12.-13.3. 1 Lassithi 25.3. 22 Bramianos
Reservoir 8.4. 6 there 25.4. 1 Thrapsano 1.4. and 14.4. A pair
Gouves Lagoon 8.5. Male still there 10.5.
Autumn: 2 Bramianos Reservoir 1.9. 2 there 5.9. 1 Agia reservoir
30.9.

POCHARD *Aythya ferina* WV
14 Bramianos reservoir 16. 2. 12 there 8.4. 3 Agia reservoir
20.4.
Autumn: 43 Bramianos reservoir 25.8. and 1.9. 50 there in
October. 1 Agia reservoir 25.10.

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FERRUGINOUS DUCK *Aythya nyroca* WV
 2 Bramianos reservoir 16.2. 5 there 8.4. 1 there 9.5. A single
 Agia reservoir 16.4. 3 there 5.5.
 Autumn: Max 55 Agia reservoir 25.10. (NC).

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula* WV
 All records from Bramianos reservoir. Winter: 7 there 16.2.
 Autumn: 2 there 26.8.-12.9. 1-2 in October.

HONEY BUZZARD *Penis apivorus* PM
 20 flying south Almiritha 27.9. (PB).

BLACK KITE *Milvus migrans* PM
 Spring: A single near Plakias 16.4. An immature in hills
 behind Paleokastro 3.5.
 Autumn: 1 near Achendrias 4.9. 1 Makais Gialos 27.9. and near
 Spili in October.

RED KITE *Milvus milvus* PM
 No positive records this year.

LAMMERGEIER *Gypaetus barbatus* RB
 Records from Lassithi, Kourtaliotiko Gorge, Sitia mountains,
 Monasteraki, Selinari, Turloti, Frati, Kera, Moxos.

EGYPTIAN VULTURE *Neophron percnopterus* PM? AV?
 2 Kourtaliotiko Gorge 19.4. (D&MT)
 1 flew south at Agia reservoir 21.10 (NC),

GRIFFON VULTURE *Gyps fulvus* RB
 Common in mountains and gorges. An estimated population of 400 (CJH).
 The Selinari colony raised 4 young.

SHORT-TOED EAGLE *Circaetus gallicus* PM
 A single Stavros 11.4. and Hania Airport 12.4. presumed to be
 the same bird. Up to 2 Thripti 24.5. and possibly two over
 Platanos 26.5.
 1 Kato Zakros 6.9. 1 Iraklion 19.10.

MARSH HARRIER *Circus aeruginosus* MB? PM
 Spring passage 26.3. to early May when 1-2 recorded at 26 sites.
 Autumn: Singles Bramianos reservoir 19.9. Messara 23.9. and
 1.10.
 2 Agia reservoir 30.9. 5 flew south at Almiritha 27.9. 2 there next
 day.

HEN HARRIER *Circus cyaneus* PM WV
 Singles Kalo Horio 15. 1. Malia 31. 1. and 9.2. A male
 Frangocastello 15.4. A female flew north of Plakias 19.4.
 1 Potamies 12.5. and a single Gouves 26.12.

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MONTAGU'S HARRIER *Circus pygargus* PM
 Exceptional numbers 30.3. to 26.4. Mainly singles recorded Tersanas marsh and pond, Lassithi plateau, Agia Triada monastery, Vai-Itanos, Plakias Bay, Rodakino, Moni Prevelli where 4 males arrived off the sea 13.4. Kourtaliotiko Gorge, 3 at Zamoudohori, Kouremenos Beach, and Frangocastello 22.4.
 Autumn: Singles Bramianos reservoir 5.9. and 12.9. and Amiras 23.9.

GOSHAWK *Accipter gentilis* PM WV?
 A single Nopigia 19.to 20.10. (NC).

SPARROWHAWK *Accipter nisus* PM WV
 Singles Kalo Horio 21.1. to 22.1. and 4.2. St John's Point 11.4, Lassithi 15.4, Hania 18.4, Agia Paraskevi 1.5, Gortyn 14.10.
 Autumn: singles Bramianos reservoir 2.10, Sfinari, Agia Reservoir, Paleochora and Agia Irini Gorge October.
 1 Aposelemis river 20.12.

BUZZARD *Buteo buteo* RB PM
 Common and widespread.

LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD *Buteo rufinus* PM
 A single Kera 26.4. 2 Prevelli 2.5. 4 Kotsiphos 2.5. 2 flew south-east Almiritha 25.9.

IMPERIAL EAGLE *Aquila heliaca* ??? AV
 A single Bramianos reservoir 15.-17.2. (CJH).

GOLDEN EAGLE *Aquila chrysaetos* RB
 Widely reported from 17 sites,

BOOTED EAGLE *Hieraaetus pennatus* WV PM
 Up to 3 dark phase Seli Ambelou Pass 6.4. A single Tamenia 27.4. 2 dark phase Kamares 10.5.
 Singles Stavromenos 31.8. Almiritha 27.9. Agios Konstandinos 18.10. Nopigia 22.10. 2 Agia reservoir 25.10.

BONELLI'S EAGLE *Hieraaetus fasciatus* RB
 Singles. Amari valley 16.4. Omalos 12.5. between Irakilon and Rethymnon 7.7. and Plakias to Argoules 8.7. A juvenile near Vai 25.9,

OSPREY *Pandion haliaetus* PM
 A single Aposelemis 14.4. and at Almiritha 25.9. 28.9. and 6.10.

LESSER KESTREL *Falco naumanni* RB? PMMB
 A single Pithori Akrotiri 4.4. and Itanos 10.4. 2 Maleme 19.4. 3 Agia Triada 20.4. Several Kato Zakros 24.4.-30.4. 6 there 1.5. 2 Kato Xerocampos 25.4. Singles Plakopoyles 2.5, Phaestos 7.5. and Selinari Gorge 11.5. 5 north of Kanevos Gorge 6.7.

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KESTREL *Falco tinnunculus* RB
Common and widespread. Good numbers in eastern Crete 23.4.-
7.5. but much reduced towards end of this period.

RED-FOOTED FALCON *Falco vespertinus* PM
First record 1 Agia Triada 31.3. 4 flew north of Amari valley
19.4. 15 Agia Triada 20.4. 12 Plakias 20.4. 12 Old Road
Rethymnon 22.4. A single Kato Xerokampos 25.4. 3 Itanos 25.4.
Kalamvka 9.5. Autumn: A single at Messara 23.9.

HOBBY *Falco subbutso* PM
A single Agia Triada Monastery 7.4. 1 flew out to sea on Old
Road Rethymnon 12.4. 1 Hersonisos 12.4. and Kato Zakros 27.4.
Autumn: 2 Bramianos reservoir 23.9. 5 over the Swallow hole on
Lassithi 15.10.

ELEONORA'S FALCON *Falco eleonora* MB PM
First record: 1 Agia Pelagia 21.4. 12 Xerokamares 29.4. 100+
along coast east of Agios Nikolaos 30.4. then common until mid
October. Last record a single on Gramvousa peninsula 26.10.

LANNER *Falco biarmicus* RB PM?
One arrived off the sea at Kouremenos beach 26.4. A single in hills
east of Elounda 8.5. A pair over cliffs near Dafnes 10.5. 1 Galatas
14.8.

PEREGRINE *Falco peregrinus* RB PM WV
Singles Selinari Gorge 7.4. Kotsiphos Gorge 14.4.
Kourtaliotiko Gorge 15.4. Lake Kournas 20.4. Georgioupolis
20.4. Zamoudohori 17.4. Vai 27.4, Kato Zakros Gorge 27.4.
carrying food. A pair breeding Petres Gorge 20.4.
Autumn: 2 flew south at Almiritha 1.10. 2 Nopigia 19.10.

CHUKAR PARTRIDGE *Alectoris chukar* RB
Records from Mesa Lassithaki, Agia Triada, Plakias, Vai, Omalos.

QUAIL *Coturnix coturnix* MB PM
Singles at Tersanas Pond 1.4.-11.4. 2 there 2.4. Also calling
at Aposelemis river mouth 3.-4. 4. Singles Old Road Rethymnon
9.4. and 12.4. Aposelemis 13.4. Phaestos 19.4. and calling on
Lassithi 18.5.

WATER RAIL *Rallus aquaticus* PM WV
Up to 2 Malia in January. Singles at Aposelemis rivers 19.11. and
22.12.

SPOTTED CRAKE *Porzana porzana* PM
Singles Tersanas Marsh 8.4. Georgioupolis Lake 20.4. and 21.4.
Skoutelonas river 25.4. and marshy pools at Itanos 25.4. Late
record at Bramianos reservoir 9.5.

LITTLE CRAKE *Porzana parva* PM
A male and two females at Aposelemis river mouth 4.4. - 6.4.

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A single there 14.4. Present at Agia reservoir 16.4. to 5.5. max 4 at 16.4. 3 Bramianos reservoir 25.4. one dead at Kato Zakro 26.4. Autumn: A single Agia reservoir 30.9.

MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus* RB PM
Common on all waters. A pair with young at Tavronitis river 28.4. 115 Agia reservoir 21.10.

COOT *Fulica atra* RB? WV PM
No Winter counts. April, recorded Thrapsano Pool, Power Station, Geropotamos bridge, Georgioupolis Lake, and Lake Kournas.
Max. 17 Bramianos reservoir 8.4. 15 Agia reservoir 20.4. 180 Bramianos reservoir rising to 236 1.9. 271 Agia reservoir 21.10.

BLACK-WINGED STILT *Himantopus himantopus* PM
First 15 Aposelemis river 15.3. Recorded 8 sites in April mainly 1-2 but 5 Lassithi turlough 4.4. and 6 Bramianos reservoir 8.4. Autumn: 23 Sitia 6.9.

STONE CURLEW *Burhinus oedicephalus* MB PM WV
A single Malia 13.4. 2 Frangocastello 15.4. 5 roosting on Plakias beach 19.4. 1 Kato Zakros 25.4.- 26.4. A single Frangocastello 5.7.

COLLARED PRATINCOLE *Glareola pratincola* PM
Only one record of a single Plakias 13.7.

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius* MB PM
Fairly common from 3.3. with pairs on most rivers.

GREAT RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula* PM WV
Spring: A single Plakias 17.4. 2 Xerocampos 25.4. 1 Skoutelonas river mouth 20.5
Autumn: 2 near Iraklion 17.8. Single Tersanos pool 20.8 and Goudouras 3.9

KENTISH PLOVER *Charadrius alexandrinus* PM WV?
A male Aposelemis beach pool 3.4.

GREATER SAND PLOVER *Charadrius leschenaultii* PM AV
A single at Xerocampos 25.4. (JDS-S)

GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis apricaria* PM WV
A single Aposelemis river 18.3. and Malia 15.10.

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola* PM
A single Xerokampos 25.4. (JDS-S)

WHITE-TAILED PLOVER *Chettusia leucura* AV
A single Thrapsano 14.4. was photographed by Island Holiday group (per. CJH)

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- LAPWING *Vanellus vanellus* WV
 4 Malia 6.2 and 3 Bramianos reservoir 20.9.
- SANDERLING *Calidris alba* PM
 A single in winter plumage Hania beach 24.4.
- LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta* PM
 Present at 11 sites 2.4. to 19.5. usually in small numbers but up to 20 Gouves lagoon 6.4. and 12 Plakopoyles beach 23.4. to 7.5.
- TEMMINCK'S STINT *Calidris temminckii* PM
 Singles near Iraklion 17.8. Georgioupolis Lake 18.8. Stavros 20.8. 1-2 Bramianos reservoir 30.8. to 8.9.
- CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea* PM
 Single Xerokampos 25.4. Bramianos reservoir 25.4. 2 Plakopoyles beach 30.4. Up to 8 Bramianos reservoir 10.9. to 12.9.
- DUNLIN *C. alpine* PM
 2 Iraklion 12.10. 1 Nopigia 26.10. promptly shot by a hunter (NC)
- RUFF *Philomachus pugnax* PM
 Spring: Present small numbers at 12 sites 30.3. to 20.5. with a maximum of 8 at Gouves lagoon 6.4.
 Autumn: 10 Bramianos reservoir 10.9. A single Agia reservoir 30.9. 2 there in October.
 A single Agia reservoir 25.10.
- COMMON SNIPE *Gallinago gallinago* PM WV
 Small numbers 30.3. to 16.4. at 5 sites with a maximum of 6 at Tersanas Marsh 2.4.
 Autumn: 3 Bramianos reservoir 30.8. to 10.9. a single there and at Olous during October. A single Nopigia 19.10.
- BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa* PM
 A single Tavronitis river 26.4. (JDS-S).
- BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica* PM???
- EURASIAN CURLEW *Numenius arquata*. PM WV?
 A single Itanos 10.4.
- SPOTTED REDSHANK *Tringa erythropus* PM
 Singles Frangocastello 22.4, Lassithi plateau 23.4, Tavronitis 7.5, Bramianos reservoir 9.5.
 Autumn: Agia reservoir 30.9, Thrapsano 11.10, 15.10. and 27.10.

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REDSHANK *Tringa totanus* PM WV
2 Aposelemis river 26.3. Singles Gouves lagoon 3.4. Elounda
9.4. and Makryialos river 29.4.
Autumn: 1-2 Bramianos reservoir 30.8. to 12.9. Singles Elounda
11.9. and 15.11 and Thrapsano 11.10.

MARSH SANDPIPER *Tringa stagnatilis* PM
March: 2 Aposelemis river 15.3. 1 Thrapsano 18.3.
April: Singles Kato Zakros 25.4. 1 Plakopoyles beach pool
24.4. to 30.4. 1 Thrapsano 5.5.

GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia* PM
Recorded at 14 sites 20.3. to 4.5. mainly singles.
Autumn: 1 Bramianos reservoir 25.8. to 12.9. 2 there 28.8.
Singles at Agia reservoir 30.9. and Thrapsano 11.10.

GREEN SANDPIPER *Tringa ochropus* PM WV?
March: A single Tersanas Marsh 30. 3.
April: Recorded at 12 sites 1.4. to 5. 5. mainly singles but
small groups Tavronitis river 25.4.
Autumn: 7 Tersanas Pond and 10 Agia reservoir 20.8. 10
Bramianos reservoir 28.8. Last record: a single at
Georgioupolis Lake 29.9.

WOOD SANDPIPER *Tringa glareola* PM
Up to 5 Tersanas Marsh 6.4. to 12.4. Common in small numbers to
29.4. at 15 sites with a maximum of 8 Bramianos reservoir 8.4. 10
Plakopoyles beach pools 30.4. 9 Chiona beach 3.5.
Autumn: Up to 120 Bramianos reservoir 26.8. A single at Gouves in
October.

COMMON SANDPIPER *Actitis hypoleucos* PM WV?
A single Tersanas pond 6.4. Then common in small numbers with a
single Chiona 16.7. and Almiritha 27.9. 3 Elaiffonisi 28.10.

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE *Phalaropus lobatus* AV
A male Plakopoyles beach pool 24.4. - 25.4. watched spinning for
food. (AC).

TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres* PM
A single Frangocastello beach 22.4. (HH) 3 Malia (RJ).

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus* PM WV
Winter visitor. Late records in April: 2 Hania harbour 7.4. 1 Old
Road Rethymnon 15.4.

AUDOUIN'S GULL *Larus audouinii* PM RB
A 3rd year bird off Elounda 11.4.

YELLOW-LEGGED GULL *Larus cachinnans michahellis* RB
Common all year.

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- SANDWICH TERN *Sterna sandvicensis* PM WV
 10 Hania 1.4. Up to 5 Analypsis beach 7.4.
- COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo* PM
 10 Plakias 19.4. (HH).
- LITTLE TERN *Sterna albifrons* PM
 A single off Sitia chased by an Eleanora's falcon 31.8.
- WHISKERED TERN *Chlidonias hybridus* PM
 Singles Platanas 20.4. Karteros 24.4. 4 Bramianos reservoir
 25.4. 2 Thrapsano 1.5. 1 there 5.5. 1 Tavronitis river 7.5. 2
 Thrapsano 18.6.
 Autumn: Up to 4 Bramianos reservoir 8.9. to 12.9. A single
 Thrapsano 20.9.
- BLACK TERN *Chlidonias niger* PM
 Autumn: 1-2 Bramianos reservoir 3.9. to 5.9. A single Agia
 reservoir 30.9.
- WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *Chlidonias leucopterus* PM
 Singles at Frangocastello, Georgioupolis Lake and harbour, Lake
 Kournas 22.4. 1-2 Tavronitis river 25.4. to 28.4. singles at Kato
 Zakros 25.4. to 26.4. Bramianos reservoir 9.5. Agia reservoir 18.5.
 and 20.5.
 Autumn: 1 Iraklion harbour 16.8.
- ROCK DOVE *Columba livia* RB
 Recorded in small numbers from Kourtaliotiko Gorge, Loutro, Kato
 Zakros, Rodakino, Arendena and Agia Irini Gorge.
- WOOD PIGEON *Columba palumbus* RB
 Recorded from Lassithi, St John's Point and Rethymnon Pines mainly
 small numbers, max 10 Mesa Lassithaki 6.4.
- COLLARED DOVE *Streptopelia decaocto* RB
 Recorded Rethymnon, Iraklion. Venezelos Graves, Phaestos, Sfakion,
 Anopoli, Kato Kastliana, Agia Roumeli.
- TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia turtur* MB PM
 First record Plakias 13.4. then widely reported for rest of
 April, mainly singles but 15 Plakopoyles 24.4. 6 Vai and 10
 Itanos 25.4. Several pairs in May at Kolombari, Kissamos and
 Psathogianos.
 Autumn: 4 Viran Episkopi 18.8. 6 Bramianos reservoir 7.9. 1
 Almiritha 26.9.
- GREAT SPOTTED CUCKOO *Clamator glandarius* PM
 One arrived off the sea at Frangocastello 22.4. (H.H.)

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- CUCKOO *Cuculus canorus* PM
 Recorded 7.4. to 18.5. mainly singles from Agia Triada
 Monastery, Rethymnon Pines. One red phase 11.4. at Rethymnon,
 Other singles at Agia Irini Gorge, Chiona, Plakopoyles,
 Lassithi, Omalos, Aposelemis, Mesa Lassithaki, Souda.
- BARN OWL *Tyto alba* RB WV?
 Single Kato Zakros 25.4. Palekastros 27.4.
- SCOPS OWL *Otus scops* RB MB
 Fewer records than previous years. Calling at Zamoudohori, Kato
 Zakos, Imbros, Topolia Gorge, Nopigia and Paleochora. One dead
 Platanes 20.4.
- NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus europaeus* PM
 1 dead southwest of Iraklion 18. 8. Singles at Bramianos reservoir
 from 30.8. to 3.9. east of Voila 6.9. and at Kalo Horio 10.11.
- SWIFT *Apus apus* MB PM
 First record 2 Tersanas Pond 2.4. 250 there 7.4. 50+ Malia 17.4.
 Large flock Phaestos 19.4. then widespread and common.
- PALLID SWIFT *Apus pellidus* MB PM
 More records than previous years. Singles Zamadouhori 18.4.,
 Georgiopolis, Kato Zakros 25.4. Plakopoyles, Thrapsano.
 Large flock over Iraklion harbour 7.7. (DI,GS & LJ)
 Autumn: 2 Frangocastello 22.8. 5 near Stavromenos 31.8.
- ALPINE SWIFT *Apus melba* MB PM
 Common at many sites from 11.4.
 Autumn passage 100 over Asterousia Mountains 4.9. with a
 single over Almiritha 26.9. 30+ Agia reservoir 21.10. 40+
 Nopigia 24.10.
- KINGFISHER *Alcedo atthis* RB? PM WV
 Mainly a winter visitor. Then in Spring singles Tersanas pond
 4.4. Aposelemis river 8.4. Elounda 9.4. Sitia 10.4. Rethymnon
 20.4. Georgiopolis Lake 22.4.
 Autumn: 2 Agia reservoir 30.9. 2 Almiritha 25.9. More numerous
 in October.
- BEE-EATER *Merops apiaster* PM MB?
 Singles Omalos and Geropotamos bridge 16.4. when 15 flew north over
 Amari.
 13 Kato Zakros Gorge 27.4. Main passage 1.5. to 11.5. with records
 from Analypeis, Prevelli, Agia Triada, Tersanas Pool, Afrata, Kato
 Gouves, Thrapsano, Kounalis, Kalo Horio, Argiroupolis, Hersonisos,
 Itanos, Miletos, Maleme, Agia reservoir where several hundreds
 arrived and alighted for a few minutes (JT).

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ROLLER *Coracias garrulus* PM
 Only one record of up to 3 at Perama 18.8. (H-MB, JRK)

HOOPOE *Upupa epops* PM
 Recorded from 18 sites from 31.3. to 10.5. mainly singles but 3 near Itanos 10.4. 2 at Kouremenos in April were suspected of breeding in an olive grove.
 Autumn: 1-2 Power Station, Likotinora, Askifos, Agia reservoir, Goudouras, Agia Fotra, Bramianos reservoir, Asterousia mountains, Kato Zakros, Kalo Horio. A single Almiritha 30.9. amd Tersanas 21.10.

WRYNECK *Jynx torquilla* PM
 Singles from 6.4. to 1. 7. Krassi 6.4. Tersanas Pond 18.4. Kera 8. 4. 26.4. 17.6. Mesa Lassithaki 13.4. Vidiani 30.4. Sempronas 5.5. Malia Oaks 20.6. 2 Kera 24.6. and single there 1.7. possibly a breeding record?

CALANDRA LARK *Melanocorypha calandra* PM
 No records this year.

SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella brachydactyla* MB PM WV
 3 Spinalonga 9.4. 10 Frangocastello 15.4. 30 there 22.4. 20 Ano Zakros 25.4. 10 Bramianos Reservoir 26.4. 1-2 Itanos 25.4. 2 singing Plakopoyles harbour 26.4. 2 pairs on Lassithi in May.

LESSER SHORT-TOED LARK *C. rufescens* AV
 4 between Loutro and Phoenix 15.4. (MW). This is the same date as last year.

CRESTED LARK *Galerida cristata* RB
 Common and widespread.

WOODLARK *Lullula arborea* RB PM
 Reported as common during April and May. 2 Falasarna 3.10.

SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis* WV PM
 Singles Tavronitis river 22.4. Bramianos reservoir 26.4. Ano Zakros 27.4.

SAND MARTIN *Riparia riparia* PM
 First at Tersanas Pond and Marsh 31.3. A single at Aposelemis river 7. 4. Then common throughout April and second week of May.
 Autumn: Recorded at Almiritha 28.9 and Agia reservoir 30.9.

CRAG MARTIN *Ptyonoprogne rupestris* RB PM?
 Common, recorded at 12 sites. 2 nests in Kotsiphos Gorge 14.4.

BARN SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica* MB PM
 First record at Tersanas Marsh 31.3. 300+ at Bramianos reservoir 8.4. then common throughout the island.
 Autumn: Recorded at Agia reservoir 30.9. and Almiritha 25.9. but no counts available.

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RED-RUMPED SWALLOW *Hirundo daurica* MB PM
First record 1 at Aposelemis River Pool 4.4. Singles at
Bramianos Reservoir 8.4., Platanos gorge 11.4. Prasses 16.4.
1-2 Amari 19.4. Phaestos 19.4. Tavronitis river 22.4. Omalos
22.4. 2 in mountains south of Fournes 18.5. a single at
Skoutelonas 18.5. A pair possibly breeding in steep face
between Dafnedes and Perama.
Autumn: 8 Almiritha 27.9. and Georgioupolis 28.9.

HOUSE MARTIN *Delichon urbica* MB PM
First record a single Tersanas Pond 2.4. 20 there 7.4. 3 Thrapsano
5.4. A flock of 50 Bramianos reservoir 8.4. then small numbers at
Elounda 9.4. and Malia 12.4. Passage recorded at Ornon 1. 5.
Autumn: Present at Almiritha 24.9. and Agia Lake 30.9.

TAWNY PIPIT *Anthus campestris* MB? PM
First Tersanas Pond 6.4. 15 Agia Triada Monastery 7.4. Then
small numbers present Aposelemis river, Frangocastello, Old
Road Rethymnon, Omalos, Falasarna, Agia Triada, Plakias,
Chiona Beach. 2 Omalos 18.5.
Singles in September at Achendrias 4. 9. and in October at
Falasarna 3.10.

TREE PIPIT *Anthus trivialis* PM
Passage recorded Tersanas and Agia Triada Monastery 31.3. to
2.4. with peaks of 100. Small flocks through Malia 3.4. 10 Old
Road Rethymnon 11.4. 10 Zamoudori 18.4. 5 Plakias 19.4.
Singles Kato Zakros 24.4. and Chiona Beach 6. 5.
Autumn: 1 Almiritha 6.10.

MEADOW PIPIT *Anthus pratensis* WV OB PM
Winter visitor with late birds in March and April: 1 Tersanas
31.3. and April: 5 Tersanas 7.4. 1 Old Road Rethymnon 9.4. 1
Tavronitis river 22.4.

RED-THROATED PIPIT *Anthus cervinus* PM
3 Aposelemis river 6.4. 1 Elounda 9.4. 2 Tersanas Marsh 10.4.
Recorded Kallergi 26.4. 2 Plakopoyles beach 28.4. Present at
Malia 5.5. -,
Autumn: 10 Tersanas 2.10.

WATER PIPIT *Anthus spinoletta* WV PM
No records this year.

YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla flava* OB PM
Small numbers at Tersanas Marsh and Pond from 2.4. Main passage from
7.4. when 10 Agia Triada Monastery 8.4. reaching a peak of 150 by
12.4. Also recorded at Aposelemis river, Lassithi, Bramianos
reservoir, up to 100 Elounda 9.4. to 13.4. 10+ River Platis,
Plakias, Frangocastello 15.4. Old Road Rethymnon, all *feldeggi* 28.4.
Large numbers Skoutelonas 28.4.

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Spring passage continued until end of May races mainly *feldegg* and some *flava*. A bird of the race *beema* at Itanos 30.4. (AC) and Falasarna 20.10. (NC).

Autumn: 1 Almiritha 25.9. 1 Agia reservoir 30.9.

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea* WV OB PM
Single Georgioupolis 22.4. Tavronitis River 25.4. Kato Zakros 29.4. 2 Samaria Gorge 22.10.3 Sfinari 24.10. and 1 Sougia 27.10.

WHITE WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba* WV RB PM
Common from 9.4. when 16 at Agia Triada Monastery. Fewer records by end of April. A single *yarrelli* at Maridati 5.5.

WREN *Troglodytes troglodytes* WV RB
Common in the mountains. A single at Agia reservoir 30.9.

ALPINE ACCENTOR *Prunella collaris* RB
A juvenile between Bembonas and Melisses in Sitia mountains is the only record. (H-MB, JR-K).

ROBIN *Erithacus rubecula* WV PM
Winter visitor: Last record 1 Agia Triada Monastery 31.3. First Autumn record 2 Almiritha 6.10.

NIGHTINGALE *Luscinia megarhynchos* MB PM
First 3 Milatos 31.3. Widespread in April, fewer during May. Singles in June at Zourva 1.6. and Agia reservoir 1.6. Breeding confirmed (C&JH).
Autumn: 1 Bramianos 6.9.

BLUETHROAT *L. svecica* WV PM
A male of the race *cyaneacula* Bramianos reservoir 10.9. (H-MB, JR-K)

BLACK REDSTART *Phoenicurus ochrurus* WV PM
No records this year but assumed winter visitor as usual.

COMMON REDSTART *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* PM
First Spring record: 1 Agia Triada Monastery 1.4. then singles Moni Preveli 13.4. and Old Road Rethymnon 15.4. and 17.4. Voutas 21.4. Kato Zakros 27.4. and 3.5.
Autumn: 1 Almiritha 6.10.

WHINCHAT *Saxicola rubetra* OB PM
7+ Aposelemis river and Malia 3.4. 3 Frangocastello 15.4. A large party at Preveli Monastery 19.4. Common during the rest of April.
Autumn: A single Almiritha 27.10.

STONECHAT *Saxicola torquata* WV RB PM
Common and widespread.

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ISABELLINE WHEATEAR *Oenanthe isabellina* OB PM
 Singles at Elounda 9.4. Stavros 11.4. Plakopoyles 24.4.
 Tersanas 2.10.

WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe* MB PM
 First recorded at Tersanas Pond 31.3. In April 4 Agia Triada
 Monastery 1.4. to 4.4. 5 there 8.4. then small numbers daily.

BLACK-EARED WHEATEAR *Oenanthe hispanica* MB PM
 First 2 Agia Triada Monastery 31.3. Up to 6 there 1.4. to
 12.4. then present at 14 sites during April and May.
 Autumn record of a single Agia Reservoir 30.9.

ROCK THRUSH *Monticola saxatilis* PM
 No records this year.

BLUE ROCK THRUSH *Monticola solitarius* WV RB PM
 Widespread especially common in gorges. 8 counted on Gramvousa
 peninsula 26.10.

BLACKBIRD *Turdus merula* WV RB PM
 Common and widespread.

SONG THRUSH *Turdus philomelos* WV PM
 A single Tersanas Marsh 31.3.

MISTLE THRUSH *Turdus viscivorus* WV
 No records this year.

CETTI'S WARBLER *Cettia cetti* RB
 Common and widespread in a variety of habitats.

FAN-TAILED WARBLER *Cisticola Juncidis* RB
 Recorded at Georgioupolis with up to 4 on 2.6. Singles at
 Perivolia 28.5, East of Power Station 17.8, near Kolimbari
 23.8. and Skoutelonas 23.8.

SAVI'S WARBLER *Locustella luscinioides* PM
 No records this year.

MOUSTACHED WARBLER *Acrocephalus melanopogon* WV PM
 Singles Plakopoyles beach 30.4. Thrapsano 5.5. Chiona beach
 6.5. Keritis river 12.5.
 Autumn: Aposelemis river 25.10.

SEDGE WARBLER *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* PM
 Up to 6 Sitia 10.4. Singles Platanos 10.4. Kato Zakros 26.4.
 Plakopoyles Beach 6.5.
 Autumn: A single Georgioupolis 29.9.

MARSH WARBLER *Acrocephalus palustrina* ???
 A single Plakopoyles beach 3.5. (AC).

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REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* PM
 April: 1 at Malia Marsh 3.4. several at Sitia 10.4. Singles
 Old Road Rethymnon 13.4. Tavronitis river 19.4, Agios Nikolaos
 30.4. May: Singles Chiona beach 6.5. Keridis bridge 13.5.

GREAT REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* MB PM
 Mainly singles Platanes 10.4, Old Road Rethymnon 10.4,
 Georgiopolis 21.4, Plakias 22.4, Geroni 24.4, 3 at Kato
 Zakros 24.4, Kouremenos 4.5. and Plakopoyles 6.5.

OLIVACEOUS WARBLER *Hippolais pallida* MB PM
 Fewer records than most years.
 Spring records: Singles at Kato Zakros 24.4. and 2.5. Paraspori 1.5.
 Autumn record: 1 Tersanas 2.10.

ICTERINE WARBLER *Hippolais icterina* PM
 Singles Falasarna 18.4. Kato Zakros 25.4. 27.4. and 3.5.
 Autumn: 1 Georgiopolis 29.9.

SUBALPINE WARBLER *Sylvia cantillans* MB PM
 First Tersanas Pond 1.4. 5 there 2.4. and 2 there 7.4. A male
 Moni Preveli 13.4. Singles Old Road Rethymnon 17.4. Agia
 Triada 19.4. A pair at Frangocastello 22.4. and in Autumn
 30.9.

SARDINIAN WARBLER *Sylvia melanocephala* WV? RB PM
 Common and widespread. 30 singing males in 100 metres
 Spinalonga 9.4.

RÜPPELL'S WARBLER *Sylvia rüppelli* MB PM
 Males in territory Kotsiphos and Moni Preveli 14.4. singles
 recorded there 19.4. and 21.4.

ORPHEAN WARBLER *S. hortensis* MB PM
 A single west of Plakias 14.7. (Dr.GS & LJ) 2 near Sissi 15.10.
 (RJ).

LESSER WHITETHROAT *S. curruca* PM
 Singles: Limnes Pool 11.4. and Kato Zakros 2.5.

WHITETHROAT *Sylvia communis* MB PM
 April: 7 Elounda 10.4. 1 Agia Ioannis 14.4. 4 Preveli 15.4.
 Old Road Rethymnon 15.4. and 22.4. Singles Falasarna 18.4.
 Preveli 22.4. Zamoudohori 24.4. Kato Zakros 27.4. and 2.5.
 Plakopoyles 30.4.
 Autumn: 1 Agia reservoir 30.9.

GARDEN WARBLER *Sylvia borin* ???
 Single Kato Zakros 25.4. and 27.4.

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BLACKCAP *Sylvia atricapilla* WV PM
 Singles Petres Gorge 21.4. Kato Zakros 27.4. in Spring.
 Autumn: 2 on the Gramvousa peninsula 26.10.

BONELLI S WARBLER *Phylloscopus bonelli* PM
 1 Kato Zakros 26.4. (JDS-S)

WOOD WARBLER *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* WV PM
 A single Agia Triada Monastery 2.4. then small numbers at 13
 sites 7.4. to 3.5. Max 6 Turkish Bridge Prevelli valley 13.4.
 6 Theriso 19.4 and 6 Prevelli 21.4.
 Autumn: Singles Almiritha 6.10. and Georgioupolis 29.9.

CHIFFCHAFF *Phylloscopus collybita* WV PM?
 Singles: Agia Triada Monastery 7.4, Limnes 15.4, Frangocastello
 15.4, and Tylissos 16.4.

WILLOW WARBLER *Phylloscopus trochilus* PM
 Spring: Singles at Tersanas Marsh 1.4. and 2.4. and Agia
 Triada Monastery 10.4. increasing to 10 by 11.4. Small numbers
 Paleochora 21.4. Chiona Beach 6.5 and Kato Zakros 2.5.
 Autumn: Almiritha 26.9. Singles Sfinari 24.10., Paleochora
 27.10. Elaphonissi 26.10. Up to 3 Paleochora 29.10.

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus* RB WV
 No records this year.

FIRECREST *Regulus ignicapillus* MB? WV
 No records this year.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa striata* MB PM
 First 1 Agia Triada Monastery 7.4. Small numbers. April.
 Singles Platanes 12.4. and 17.4. Turkish Bridge Prevelli 19.4.
 Petres Gorge 21.4. Spili 18.4. 2 Koraka beach 18.4. 1 Latro
 20.4.
 More numerous from 24.4. when 5 Kouremenos 24.4. to 28.4. 2
 Vai, 3 Itanos, 2 Chiona beach 26.4. 6 Kato Zakros Gorge 27.4.
 rising to 30, on 3.5.

RED-BREASTED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula parve* PM
 No records this year.

SEMI-COLLARED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula semitorquata* PM
 No positive records this year.

COLLARED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula albicollis* PM
 First record 3 Agia Triada Monastery 31.3. remaining to 12.4.
 Max 5 on 7.4. Small numbers at 19 sites until 25.4. Max. 4
 Voutas 21.4.

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- PIED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula hypoleuca* PM
 First record 3 Agia Triada Monastery 31.3. Small numbers 1-3 at 17 sites until 6.5. Max 10 Souda Bay Cemetery 19.4.
- COAL TIT *Parus ater* ?? ??
 Recorded from Samaria Gorge 4.7. (DrGS, LI)
- BLUE TIT *Parus caeruleus* RB
 Common and widespread.
- GREAT TIT *Parus major* RB
 Common and widespread.
- SHORT-TOED TREECREEPER *Certhia brachydactyla* RB
 Up to 6 Samaria Gorge 22.10. (NC).
- PENDULINE TIT *Remiz pendulinus* WV RB
 Up to 6 Malia to 13.3. A single Malia 12.11.
- GOLDEN ORIOLE *Oriolus oriolus* RB PM
 First 1 Agia Triada Monastery 12.4. 2 Omalos 16.4. 5 Moni Prevelli 19.4. 2 Souda and 3 Hania 20.4. 1-2 23.4. to 6.5. at Plakias, Phaestos, Lake Kournas, Frangocastello, Kera, Agia Triada Monastery, Plakopoyles, Kouremenos Bridge, Souda, Kato Zakros.
 Autumn: 6 between Stavrochori and Ag. Stefanos 9.9.
- RED-BACKED SHRIKE *Lanius collurio* PM
 Autumn Passage migrant. A single Agia Reservoir 30.9. 6 Tersanas 2.10. Singles at Nopigia 19.10. to 25.10. Falasarna 23.10. Sfinari 24.10. and Gramvousa Peninsula 26.10.
- LESSER GREY SHRIKE *Lanius minor* PM
 A total of 11 Frangocastello 224 6. (H-MB, JR-K)
- WOODCHAT SHRIKE *Lanius senator* MB PM
 Summer Visitor. First 1-4 daily Agia Triada Monastery 3.4. to 15.4. 2 Tersanas 6.4. Up to 4 Platanes and Plakiae 17.4. Also recorded at Plakopoyles beach, Kouremenos, Chiona beach, Vai, Itanos, Falasarna and Kato Zakros to 1.5.
- EURASIAN JAY *Garrulus glandarius* RB
 Singles in April Lassithi, Kalamavka, Amari, Agia Irini Gorge.
- YELLOW-BILLED CHOUGH *Pyrrhocorax graculus* . RB
 3 Kotsiphos Gorge 12.4. 2 at nest hole Kourtaliotiko Gorge 12.4.
- RED-BILLED CHOUGH *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax* RB
 Common in the largest gorges Max. 120 Monasteraki 16.2. and 60 there 12.10.

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EURASIAN JACKDAW *Corvus monedula* RB
Common in upland areas. Large flock nesting at Morosini Aqueduct 14.4.

CARRION CROW *Corvus corone cornix* RB
The race *C. c. cornix* the Hooded Crow is widespread and common.

COMMON RAVEN *Corvus corax* RB
Common and widespread. Flocks of up to 20 recorded in April.

COMMON STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris* WV PM
Winter visitor. Small numbers Tersanas Marsh 31.3. to 12.4.
Max. 7 there 7.4. 2 Aposelemis river 3.4. A single Agios Nikolaos 30.4.

HOUSE SPARROW *Passer domesticus* RB
The Italian Sparrow *P. hispaniolus italica* is common and widespread. A colony of over 50 nests in a eucalyptus tree in Maleme was noted.

SPANISH SPARROW *Passer hispaniolensis* PM
20 Tersanas Marsh 6.4. Up to 200 leaving a roost of Old Road Rethymnon 17.4. Small numbers Plakopoyles and Kouremenos. April: Recorded Almiritha 27.9.

TREE SPARROW *Passer montanus* WV? PM
A pair going into a nest hole in a hollow pipe at Malia 30.4. (JDS-S, TP)
Possible nesting Phaestos in April. (HH).

CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs* WV RB PM
Common and widespread.

SERIN *Serinus serinus* WV RB PM
Singing males at Ag. Konstandinos 4.4. Records from Mesa Lassithaki, Kali Sikia, Koxane, Spili, Phaestos, Georgioupolis. Several small parties in Samaria Gorge. A singing male and female nest building Zamoudohori 20.4. Breeding confirmed (CJH).

GREENFINCH *Carduelis chloris* WV RB PM
Common and widespread.

GOLDFINCH *Carduelis carduelis* WV RB PM
Very common and widespread.

SISKIN *Carduelis spinus* WV PM
2 in forest near Samaria, 3 Tavronitis 19.4.

LINNET *Carduelis cannabina* MV RB PM
Common and widespread.

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CIRL BUNTING *Emberiza cirulus* RB
Up to 6 Ag Konstandinos 4.4. and Ag Ioannis 14.4. 1 Lassithi
26.4.1 Omalos Plateau 12.5. 3 there 18.5. 4 south of Laki
18.5.

ROCK BUNTING *Emberiza cia* AV
A single Karteros river mouth 23.4. (JDS-S,TP).

ORTOLAN BUNTING *Emberiza hortulana* MB PM
Singles: Agia Triada Monastery 7.4. Phaestos 12.4. Old Road
Rethymnon 12.4. Amari 16.4. Moni Prevelli 19.4. 3 in song at
Prevelli 21.4. Also recorded Frati, Itanos, Laki, Zourva,
Kourtaliotiko Gorge, Roustika. Breeding confirmed (CJH).
Autumn: 5 between Mournia and Paranimfa 4.9.

REED BUNTING *Emberiza schoeniclus* WV
A single at Malia 25.1.

CORN BUNTING *Miliaria calandra* WV? RB PM
April records only. Up to 20 Tersanas Pond 6.4. down to 4 by
12.4.6 Mesa Lassithaki 6.4. 30+ in a flock Elounda 11.4.
Several males holding territory Selia to Rodakino 15.4. 15
Chiona Beach 24.4.

Many thanks to everyone who sent in records and comments.

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omitted or mangled.

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1.1.96 - 31.12.96	John & Chris Henshall, Residents. Frank & Mary Manfield, Residents.
2.4.96- 16.4.96	Rob. D. Wilson
2.4.96- 16.4.96	Stephanie Coghlan, Snail's Pace Tour.
2.4.96- 16.4.96	W W Smithson
19.4.96 - ?	David & Margaret Thorne
8.4.96 - 23.4.96	Mark Kennett
15.4.96 - ?	Mark Walters
16.4.96 - 23.4.96	Honeyguide Holidays
16.4.96 - 29.4.96	David Bridden
16.4.96 - 30.4.9	J Denis Summers-Smith, T & A D Poyser
23.4.96 - 7.5.96	Julian Townsend
Late April 1996	I & Jus Ruthen
24.4.96 - 4.5.96	Andrew Clark
1.5.96 - 12.5.96	Frank Thompson
1.5.96 - 14.5.96	Mike & Pat Stanstre
1.5.96 - 21.5.96	R Vernon
9.5.96 - 15.5.96	Robert Page
3.7.96 - 15.7.96	Dr Graham Scott & Ms Lisa Johnson
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1.10.96 - 10.10.96	Peter Wiprachtiger
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16.10.96 - 31.10.96	Nick Crouch