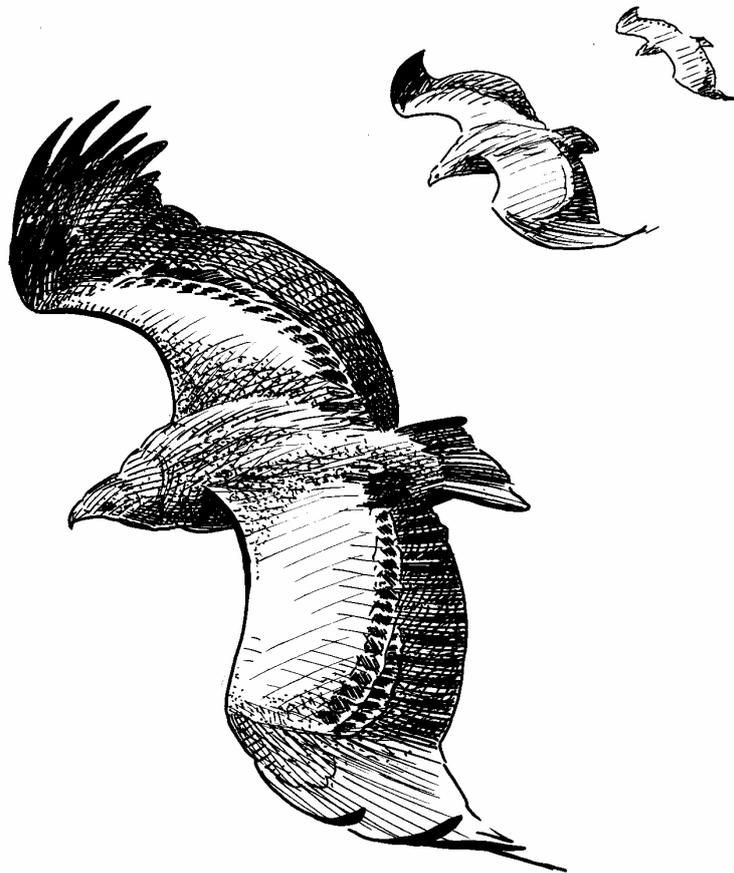


Honeyguide

WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

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Crete
15 – 22 April 1997



Honeyguide Wildlife Holidays with
the Salisbury and District Natural History Society

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15 – 22 April 1997**

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The group

Rosemary and Gerald Nicholls
Diana Forbes
Henry and Brenda Wade
Marigold Woolley
Joan Tripp
Grace Hickman
Nora Langdon
June Hodgkinson
Audrey Lovett
Margaret Pragnell
Wendy Freemantle

With commiserations to Edward and Kate Sansby and Denis Bayes who were unable to come this year.

Leaders

Mick Rebane
Rob Macklin and Kathy Archibald

Report written by Rob Macklin with plant list by Mick Rebane.
Illustrations by Rob Hume. Cover: griffon vultures.

CRETE 1997
15 – 22 APRIL

Tuesday April 15 – Outward Bound

A dawn chorus at Gatwick airport involving tawny owl, robin, blackbird and song thrush preceded our departure a little late at 0730 hours but in bright sunshine. Our arrival at Iraklion was in cool conditions and we soon met up with our Cretan expert Mick Rebane and boarded the coach to Plakias on the south coast. Our journey took us along the north coast of Crete to Rethymnon then through the towering Kourtaliotiko gorge before arriving at Plakias in late afternoon. Griffon vultures, buzzards and kestrels were seen from the bus along with two woodchat shrikes on phone wires and several hirundines. Our host, George Dimakis at the Sophia Hotel, was on hand to welcome us with a cup of tea. Audrey had made a birthday cake for June and Marigold and we all consumed this with relish.

Before dinner Kathy and I carried out a local recce while some of the group took a stroll along the road on the west of the town. The eastern end of the town still has some damp fields although these have already suffered from the blight of further development in the shape of tavernas. Nevertheless they looked good for migrants and we encountered a small 'fall' with four tawny pipits, several tree pipits, whinchats and wheatears, up to 50 swallows and several sand martins. There were six woodchat shrikes on the overhead wires and four yellow wagtails included individuals of the blue-headed and grey-headed races. Closer examination of the scrub produced a few whitethroats and a superb male subalpine warbler skulking among the low bushes. The local residents were not to be outdone with several crested larks and corn buntings in full song. In the surrounding hills three kestrels were mobbing a pair of buzzards, a raven flew over "cronking" and two alpine swifts flew high and fast to the north. Two Balkan green lizards gave us good views as they dashed into cover.

Gerald, Rosemary and a few others had gone off in the other direction where they were accompanied by a small cat. A male Sardinian warbler scolded the group (and the cat) from the safety of the cliff scrub but also allowed everyone to see him well. A Cetti's warbler sang from the undergrowth, the first spotted flycatcher was seen and at least six crag martins were identified. The first butterflies of the trip were also found here; clouded yellow, wall brown and southern speckled wood. The first of many little egrets was fishing in the rock pools along with a common sandpiper and, strangely, a pied wagtail was also clearly identified by the group (on holiday from Britain?).

We all met in the hotel lobby around 7 o'clock where Mick told us a little of the local area before we went off to the Sophia taverna for the first of many splendid evening meals and the occasional raki!

Wednesday April 16th – Plakias and Myrthios

An early morning walk along the front was fairly uneventful with several tawny pipits on the rough fields behind the beach plus a sedge warbler singing. A common sandpiper was hunting for food on the little stream which runs through the town and 20 swallows flew in off the sea.

After breakfast we headed inland towards the neighbouring hilltop village of Myrthios. The rough ground outside the hotel turned up several butterflies which were identified as Freyer's dappled white, small white and southern speckled wood which is much brighter than its cousin in northern Europe. An Erhart's Wall Lizard dashed into cover here and our first Egyptian Locust was a first sighting for most of the group.

We stopped to admire a superb woodchat shrike on overhead wires as two grey herons drifted low over the rooftops. An open area of rough ground here was full of honeywort, large blue alkanet and Bermuda buttercups plus several examples of tongue orchids. Our first of many Sardinian warblers sang from the scrub while wood warblers uttered their fluting calls from the cover of surrounding trees. Butterflies here included clouded yellow, holly blue and a magnificent scarce swallowtail.

One of the most bizarre incidents of the trip occurred next when a buzzard flew very low through the olive groves clutching prey which it dropped right in front of several members of the group. The prey in question was a first-summer moorhen which had a little blood under the wings but otherwise seemed unscathed - an incredibly narrow escape.

As we continued our walk through the olive groves a hoopoe flashed away into cover and Cetti's warblers serenaded us all the way. Both buzzard and kestrel flew overhead while four crag martins wheeled around the remains of an old mill, being joined by both sand and house martins. Closer inspection of the scrub around the river revealed a good number of wood warblers moving through, several blue tits calling and a spotted flycatcher catching insects. Walking through the olive grove we found two enormous naked man orchids which had everyone diving for their cameras, and a Cretan festoon butterfly gave us all good views. A brown skipper was probably a mallow skipper while other goodies included Bath white, small copper and some very worn painted ladies.

The final ascent to Myrthios was quite difficult as parts of the path had been badly eroded during the winter storms. Nevertheless all the group made it and we all felt that we had earned our lunch at the tavern in Myrthios – many thanks to the group for the cold beers. The view from the village is quite stunning and a sparrowhawk did a fly past as we tucked into our lunch. Two alpine swifts also scythed across the sky.

After lunch we took a more direct route back to Plakias through the olive groves and were disturbed to see that some of the groves had been treated with herbicide. This seems to be a modern phenomenon and one that seems utterly pointless. Fortunately most of the groves still retained their floral delights and one in particular had a superb display of gladioli as well as crown daisies and Bermuda buttercups. On the way down we were kept company by several buzzards which breed around the area.

A most welcome cup of tea at the hotel was followed by a rather chilly walk to a different taverna where we all enjoyed a huge selection of Greek specialities.

Thursday April 17th - Kourtaliotiko Gorge and Kedros Foothills

A cloudy start to the day and certainly feeling a little chilly. A quick look at the fields behind the beach produced several tawny and tree pipits, another woodchat shrike, two whinchats and a skulking whitethroat. The usual two buzzards soared effortlessly on the breeze.

Our next stop was at the Kourtaliotiko gorge where a series of steps had been hewn from the rock, leading down to the river and a small church. Wild Cretan cyclamens were found all along the path here, along with another endemic, Cretan valerian, plus fabulous cushions of Greek spiny spurge and stunning yellow asphodel. Ravens, kestrels and griffon vultures sparred with each other over the high crags while two rock doves shot through the gorge. Cetti's warblers and wrens were in song although the highlight (for Joan at least) had to be a male golden oriole which showed itself very briefly in flying along the gorge. Four crag martins searched for insects here while both grey and white wagtails hunted alongside the river.

An outside lunch in the village of Spili was enlivened by Mick finding a spray of orchids in a local bar including a couple of giant orchids. From this point on the weather began to deteriorate but we decided to carry on and visit the famous orchid site in the mountains above Spili. Unfortunately the rain arrived just as we crossed the stream and after seeing a few orchids we had to beat a hasty retreat. With everyone cold and wet we decided to head back to the hotel to dry out, vowing to return later in the week if time allowed.

We arrived back at Plakias to be greeted by sunshine and warmth so decided to have a walk along the beach road to the west end of the town. Two Sardinian warblers chattered at us from the scrub beneath the cliffs and the cat from the first day emerged again to accompany us. Two ortolan buntings were also seen though this time at the very top of the cliff but still viewable in the telescope. Cetti's

warblers were singing from the lower scrub and a black-eared wheatear made a fleeting appearance on the rocks.

The rocks along the shore turned up two common sandpipers before Gerald called us all over to see a kingfisher perched up on the rocks – it seemed to make a very good living from the rock pools. As we walked back to the town a little egret was seen among the rocks then a real find was two squacco herons resting on the rocks by the harbour and giving excellent views. All in all, a good recovery from the cold conditions experienced up in the mountains.

Friday April 18th - Phaestos and Aghia Triada

A long drive today along the south coast to the ancient Minoan palace of Phaestos; on our arrival we headed straight to the cafeteria for a pastry and coffee. The view from the cafeteria was stupendous and we were lucky enough to have great views of red-rumped swallows, several of which perched up on the telephone wires. Swallows, sand martins and house martins joined the throng of hirundines then Gerald spotted a purple heron hunting among the olive groves below. As we all looked at this bird another heron appeared in the same grove.



After coffee Audrey and Brenda decided to have a look around the ruined palace while the rest of us explored the slopes below. Butterflies here included scarce swallowtail, swallowtail and common blue although the highlights here were a pair of golden orioles among the pines and a hoopoe flying low over the olives. Distant views of game birds turned into three chukar partridges in the meadows below with one of the birds giving us good views on top of a pile of stones. Sardinian and Cetti's warblers sang from thick scrub, a cuckoo called briefly and a serin sang intermittently from the pines. An area of rough ground behind the pines turned up several species of orchids including mammoose, fan-lipped and the orchid *Orchis boryi*. The scent of Jerusalem sage here was overwhelming and narrow-leaved bugloss was a beautiful find.

We had our packed lunch on the edge of the car park and 20 Spanish sparrows flew swiftly north over our heads; a linnets was also seen here. We then decided to drive one of the vans down to the summer palace at Aghia Triada so that we could walk down with a welcome lift back. The afternoon was beautifully warm and sunny which certainly brought out the butterflies including wall, clouded yellow, small heath, painted lady, baton blue, holly blue and Bath white. An impressive pair of dragon arums had everyone clutching their cameras (and noses). There were spectacular stands of Cretan ebony (shrubby sainfoin), mallow-leaved convolvulus and gladioli all the way plus some wonderful wild leeks. Another Balkan green lizard darted across the road with Wendy in hot pursuit with her camera. At least ten kestrels hunted the slopes. At Aghia Triada Gerald and Kathy walked down the steps and were fortunate enough to find excellent stands of both giant and monkey orchids.

The long drive back was very tiring but at the end June spotted an adult night heron in an olive grove on the edge of Plakias; further inspection of this area turned up three squacco herons feeding along a rather sad-looking stream and a purple heron flushed from the olive groves.

We arrived back at base quite late after a rather exhilarating day.

Saturday April 19th - Georgiopolis, Lake Kournas and Rethymnon

Six little egrets were found on the beach at Plakias in the morning while fresh migrants included three sedge warblers plus more swifts and swallows. On our way to the north coast we stopped on the outskirts of Plakias to look for the previous day's herons. The adult night heron was still skulking in the olive groves and we had really good views of the three squacco herons up in the olive trees. Two great reed warblers chortled from deep cover within the reeds and a female pied flycatcher was also briefly seen.

Our next stop was at the top of the Kotsiphos gorge where we had reasonable views of a pair of blue rock thrushes. A sparrowhawk flew over as several jackdaws skimmed along the crags.

We then continued our drive to the north coast and stopped for coffee at Giorgiopoulos which was full of Greek schoolchildren. A walk around the bay turned up a greenshank apparently asleep on a rock and a common sandpiper searching for food among seaweed. The number of woodchat shrikes here was quite unbelievable with at least eight located in the scrub. Cetti's and Sardinian warblers sung from cover and we found a fabulous patch of lax-flowered orchids in the reeds. Driving a little way along the road we came to an area of open water where thirty moorhens and ten coots were joined by a single grey heron and a little grebe. Striped-necked terrapins were sunning themselves around the edges of the lake.

We decided to have lunch at a taverna at Lake Kournas although we almost had to hold the tables down in the very strong wind. Kournas is the only permanent freshwater lake on the island and tends to attract black-necked grebes. Today was no exception with seven grebes on the lake plus two little grebes and a single male mallard. A little egret flew past on the other side of the lake, a hoopoe was briefly seen in the nearby meadows and a fabulous bright yellow Cleopatra butterfly drifted past. Chaste trees were growing in the water at the edge of the lake and pale bugloss grew all along the roadsides.

Moving along the main road towards Rethymnon we stopped briefly at Petras Brook where we were rewarded by excellent views of a wood sandpiper, little ringed plover and two common sandpipers. Yet more woodchat shrikes were seen here. We then decided to stop at the city of Rethymnon for a spot of shopping and sightseeing. Four little egrets were on the rocks around the harbour walls while the relatively quiet waters within the harbour turned up two Sandwich terns and an immature Audouin's gull.

As we left the hotel in Plakias for our evening taverna, we were lucky enough to see 68 glossy ibises circling the town before drifting off to the west.

Sunday April 20th - Moni Preveli and the Kedros Foothills

A cloudy, although quite warm day began with 22 little egrets, two squacco herons and a kingfisher on the rocks in Plakias bay in the morning. Among the wagtails along the beach was a superb grey-headed yellow wagtail.

Our first visit was to the monastery at Moni Preveli combining history and wildlife. Birds were difficult to find here although we managed to identify at least three red-throated pipits on call alone. Two turtle doves were flushed from the slopes below the monastery and a golden oriole skulked among the trees giving us only fleeting views. Two woodlarks sang from high up over the mountain slopes and two black-eared wheatears flitted among the rocks, continually diving into cover. Raptors consisted of the usual buzzard and kestrel and a raven crouched as it flew over. Both spotted and pied flycatchers plus nightingale and whitethroat were found in the scrub and Mick was fortunate enough to catch sight of a Ruppell's warbler. Butterflies here included Freyer's dappled white, Bath white and wall brown.

In the afternoon we headed back into the mountains above Spili for an orchid extravaganza. The sheer numbers and variety of species here was quite remarkable and we lucky enough to have the area almost to ourselves. The fields below the 'orchid hill' was a glorious carpet of Cretan tulips, Barbary nut, corn marigold, Cretan iris and more: truly a wonderful sight to behold. Woodlarks and tree pipits were both in song here and two ortolan buntings were located in riverside scrub. Several griffon vultures and buzzards drifted across the sky although a female Montagu's harrier stole the show giving us all great views as she hunted over the meadows. Butterflies up here included painted lady, Cretan festoon and the spectacular Cleopatra.

Monday April 21st - Frangocastello

This trip saw us head off to the south-western end of the island along a winding and, in some places, badly damaged coast road. We had super views of a male blue rock thrush, a hoopoe was seen from the bus and an ortolan bunting was singing from roadside scrub. A brief stop at a sheltered cove gave us four Cory's shearwaters offshore by a fishing boat and 13 little egrets flying east offshore. We also had a photo stop for a wonderful field full of glorious blue hairy lupins.

We reached the open plains of Frangocastello in mid-morning and searched the dense scrub for its wildlife. Five short-toed larks were found feeding but were very difficult to see. Distant dots on the beach turned out to be two oystercatchers in the telescope, then a flock of 36 glossy ibises flew east along the coast. Several whinchats were out in the fields and a woodchat shrike was also located. A little brown job by the old fort turned out to be a spectacled warbler but it soon disappeared into the scrub.

Lunch below the fortress at Frangocastello was taken in intense heat but the food was excellent and cheap. Sixteen little egrets were in the bay with at least 120 yellow-legged gulls. Another good selection of orchids were found among some very sharp rush, plus the leaves of sea daffodil (it flowers in early autumn), but the highlight of the day was surely a superb male Montagu's harrier which made several passes in front of the group.

On the way home we stopped at Myrthios to buy up supplies of olive oil, ouzo and raki in the local shop before adjourning to Nikos's tavema for our last evening meal and celebration of a great week.

Tuesday April 22nd Return to Iraklion

After a leisurely breakfast we bade farewell to Mick and boarded the bus for the drive back to Iraklion and the flight home.

A splendid week moving from cold and cloudy conditions to hot sun and typical Crete. Once again the group was great fun and we hope we will be travelling together again soon.

CRETE April 1997 – Butterfly list

Scarce swallowtail
Cretan festoon
Small white
Freyer's dappled white
Clouded yellow
Small copper
Baton blue
Peacock
Wall brown
Southern speckled wood

Swallowtail
Large white
Bath white
Gruner's orange tip
Cleopatra
Holly blue
Common blue
Painted lady
Small heath
Mallow skipper

20 species

Scarce swallowtail



CRETE April 1997 – Bird List

Black-necked grebe	Little Grebe
Cory's shearwater	Night heron
Squacco heron	Little egret
Grey heron	Purple heron
Glossy ibis	Mallard
Griffon vulture	Montagu's harrier
Sparrowhawk	Buzzard
Kestrel	Chukar partridge
Moorhen	Coot.
Oystercatcher	Little ringed plover
Greenshank	Wood sandpiper
Common sandpiper	Audouin's gull
Yellow-legged gull	Sandwich tern
Rock dove	Woodpigeon
Collared dove	Turtle dove
Cuckoo	Swift
Alpine swift	Kingfisher
Hoopoe	Short-toed lark
Crested lark	Woodlark
Sand martin	Crag martin
Swallow	Red-rumped swallow
House martin	Red-throated pipit
Tawny pipit	Tree pipit
Yellow wagtail	Grey wagtail
White wagtail	Pied wagtail
Wren	Nightingale
Whinchat	Stonechat
Wheatear	Black-eared wheatear
Blue rock thrush	Blackbird
Cetti's warbler	Sedge warbler
Great reed warbler	Ruppell's warbler
Spectacled warbler	Sardinian warbler
Subalpine warbler	Garden warbler
Whitethroat	Bonelli's warbler
Wood warbler	Chiffchaff
Spotted flycatcher	Pied flycatcher
Blue tit	Great tit
Golden oriole	Woodchat shrike
Jackdaw	Carrion crow
Raven	Italian sparrow
Spanish sparrow	Chaffinch
Serin	Greenfinch
Goldfinch	Linnet
Ortolan bunting	Corn bunting

88 species.

Honeyguide Wildlife Holidays: Crete 15 - 22 April 1997: Plant List

PLANT LIST

The following list comprises the more obvious plants seen and identified during the week. Key and nomenclature: Latin names of plants follows those used in Flora of the Cretan Area (Turland et al 1993), any alternative names as used in Mediterranean Wild Flowers (Blamey & Grey-Wilson 1993) follow in brackets.

* Endemic to Crete

Introduced and not native to Crete and cultivated or planted species

1 PTERIDOPHYTES

Adantaceae

Adiantum capillus-veneris Maidenhair Fern

Aspleniaceae

Asplenium orontium Acute-leaved Spleenwort

Ceterach officinarum subsp. officinarum Rusty Back Fern

Equisetaceae

Equisetum ramosissimum Horsetail

Hypolepidaceae

Pteridium aquilinum Bracken

Selaginellaceae

Selaginella denticulata Mediterranean Selaginella

2 SPERMATOPHYTES

i) Gymnosperms

Cupressaceae - Cypress Family

Cupressus sempervirens forma. horizontalis Cypress

C. sempervirens forma. sempervirens Funeral Cypress

ii) Angiosperms

a) Dicotyledons

Aizoaceae - Aizoon Family ,

Carpobrotus edulis var. rubescens Hottentot Fig

Anacardiaceae - Pistacio Family

Pistacia lentiscus Mastic Tree

Apocynaceae - Oleander Family

Nerium oleander subsp. oleander Oleander

Boraginaceae - Borage Family

Alkanna tinctoria Dyer's Alkanet

Anchusa italica (A. azurea) Large Blue Alkanet

Anchusa hybrida (A. undulata subsp. hybrida) Undulate Anchusa

Anchusa variegata Variegated Anchusa

Borago officinalis Borage

Cerithe major subsp major Honeywort
Cynoglossum creticum Blue Hound's Tongue
Echium angustifolium subsp. angustifolium Narrow-Leaved Bugloss
Echium italicum subsp. biebersteinii Pale Bugloss
Echitum plantagineum Purple Viper's Bugloss
Onosma erecta Golden Drops
Symphytum creticum (Procopia cretica) Procopia

Cactaceae - Cactus Family

Opuntia ficus-barbarica (O. ficus-indica) Prickly Pear

Campanulaceae - Bellflower Family

* *Petromarula pinnata* Cretan Wall Lettuce

Caryophyllaceae - Pink Family

Petrorhagia velutina (Kohlrauschia velutina)
Silene behen
Silene bellidifolia
Silene colorata subsp colorata
Silene gallica Small-flowered Catchfly

Cistaceae - Rockrose Family

Cistus creticus Cretan Cistus
Cistus salvifolius Sage-Leaved Cistus
Fumana thymifolia Thyme-Leaved Fumana

Compositae - Daisy Family

Achillea cretica Cretan Sneezewort
Anthemis chia
Anthemis rigida subsp. rigida Rayless Chamomile
Asteriscus spinosa (Pallenis spinosa)
Bellis annua Annual Daisy
Calendula arvensis Field Marigold
Centaurea idaea Star Thistle
Chrysanthemum coronarium var. coronarium Crown Daisy
C. coronarium var. discolor Crown Daisy
Chrysanthemum segetum Corn Marigold
Crepis rubra Pink Hawksbeard
Dittrichia viscosa subsp. viscosa Stink Aster
Galactites tomentosa Mediterranean Thistle
Helichrysum barrelieri (H. conglobatum) Golden Cassidony
Notobasis syrica Syrian Thistle
Phagnalon graecum (P. rupestre) Shrubby Cudweed
Ptilostemon chamaepeuce Shrubby Knapweed
Tragopogon sinuatis (T. porrifolius) Wild Salsify

Convolvulaceae - Bindweed Family

Convolvulus althaeoides Mallow-leaved Bindweed
Cuscuta epithimum Dodder

Crassulaceae - Stonecrop Family

Umbilicus parviflorus Small-Flowered Navelwort

Cruciferaeae - Cress Family

Arabis verna Spring Rockcress

Biscutella didyma Buckler Mustard
Cakile maritima Sea Rocket
Eruca sativa Eruca
Malcomia sinuata Stock
Matthiola tricuspidata Three-Horned Stock
Raphanus raphanistrum subsp raphanistrum Wild Radish
**Ricotia cretica* Ricotia
Sinapsis alba White Mustard

Cucurbitaceae - Cucumber Family

Bryonia cretica subsp. cretica White Bryony

Dioscoraceae - Yam Family

Tamus communis Black Bryony

Dipsacaceae - Teasel Family

Knautia integrifolia subsp. mimica A Scabious

Ericaceae - Heath Family

Erica arborea - Tree Heather

Euphorbiaceae - Spurge Family

Euphorbia acanthothamnus Greek Spiny Spurge
Euphorbia characias Mediterranean Spurge
Euphorbia dendroides Tree Spurge
Euphorbia helioscopia Sun Spurge
Euphorbia paralias Sea Spurge
Mercurialis annua Annual Mercurv
Ricinus communis Castor Oil Plant

Fagaceae - Oak Family

Quercus coccifera Kermes Oak
Quercus pubescens Downy Oak

Gentianaceae - Gentian Family

Centaurium pulchellum Lesser Centaury

Geraniaceae - Geranium Family

Erodium gruinum Long-beaked Stork's-bill
Geranium dissectum Cut-leaved Crane's-bill
Geranium rotundifolium Round-leaved Crane's-bill

Guttiferae - Hypericum Family

Hypericum empetrifolium subsp. empetrifolium Shrubby St. John's Wort

Labiatae - Mint Family

Ballota pseudodictamnus subsp. pseudodictamnus False Dittany
Coriodithymus capitatus (Thymus capitatus) Shrubby Thyme
Mentha spicata Spear Mint
Origanum vulgare subsp hirtum Marjoram
Phlomis cretica
Phlomis fruticosa Jerusalem Sage
Prasium majus Spanish Hedge-nettle
Salvia fruticosa Three-Leaved Sage
Salvia viridis Red-Topped Sage

Satureja nervosa
Satureja thymbra Savory
* *Scutellaria sieberi* A Skullcap

Leguminosae -Pea Family

Acacia spp Mimosa
Anagyris foetida Bean Trefoil
Anthyllis vulneraria subsp. rubriflora Red Kidney Vetch
Bituminaria bituminosa (Psoralea bituminosa) Pitch Trefoil
Calicotome villosa Hairy Thorny Broom
Ceratonia siliqua Carob Tree
Cercis siliquastrum Judas Tree
* *Ebenus creticus* Shrubby Sainfoin
Lathyrus setifolius Red Pea
Lupinus micranthus Hairy Lupin
Medicago arabica Spotted Medick
Medicago marina Sea Medick
Medicago orbicularis LargeDisk Medick
Onobrychis aequidentata A Cockscomb Sainfoin
Onobrychis caput-gallii A Cockscomb Sainfoin
Ononis natrix Large Yellow Rest-harrow
Securigera cretica (Coronilla cretica) Cretan Crown Vetch
Tetragonolobus purpureus Asparagus Pea
Trifolium campestre Hop Trefoil
Trifolium stellatum Star Clover
Trifolium tomentosum Woolly Trefoil
Trifolium uniflorum One-Flowered Clover
Tripodion tetraphyllum (Anthyllis tetraphyllum) Bladder Vetch
Vicia hybrida Hairy Yellow Vetchling
Vicia sativa Fodder Vetch
Vicia sepium Bush Vetch
Vicia villosa subsp. varia

Lythraceae - Loosestrife Family

Lythrum junceum Creeping Loosestrife

Malvaceae - Mallow Family

Lavatera cretica Lesser Tree Mallow
Malva cretica Cretan Mallow
Malva sylvestris Common Mallow

Moraceae - Fig Family

Ficus carica Fig
Morus alba White Mulberry

Myrtaceae - Myrtle Family

Myrtus communis subsp communis Common Myrtle

Oleaceae - Olive Family

Olea europaea subsp. europaea Olive

Orobanchaceae - Broomrape Family

Orobanche ramosa Branched Brooinrape

Oxalidaceae - Sorrel Family

Oxalis pes-caprae Bermuda Buttercup

Papaveraceae - Poppy Family

Fumaria capreolata Ramping Fumitory

Glaucium flavum Yellow-Horned Poppy

Papaver rhoeas Common Poppy

Plantaginaceae - Plantain Family

Plantago afra

Plantago coronopus Buckshorn Plantain

Plantago cretica Cretan Plantain

Plantago lanceolata Ribwort Plantain

Platanaceae - Plane Tree Family

Platanus orientalis Oriental Plane

Polygalaceae - Milkwort Family

Polygala venulosa Eastern Milkwort

Polygonaceae - Dock Family

Rumex bucephalophorus subsp. gallicus Red Dock

Primulaceae - Primrose Family

Anagallis arvensis Scarlet Pimpernel (Scarlet and blue forms)

**Cyclamen creticum* Cretan Cyclamen

Ranunculaceae - Buttercup Family

Adonis microcarpa subsp cretica Yellow Pheasant's-Eye

Anemone coronaria Crown Anemone

Anemone hortensis ssp. heldreichii

Ranunculus asiaticus Turban Buttercup

Resedaceae - Mignonette Family

Reseda lutea Wild Mignonette

Rosaceae - Rose Family

Prunus dulcis Almond

Pyrus amygdaliformis Almond-leaved Pear

Rosa sempervirens Wild Rose

Rubus sanctus Bramble

Sanguisorba minor subsp. verrucosa Mediterranean Salad Burnet

Sarcopterium spinosum Thorny Burnet

Rubiaceae - Bedstraw Family

Crucianella sp.

Rutaceae - Rue Family

Citrus limon Lemon

Citrus sinensis Orange

Ruta chalepensis subsp chalepensis Fringed Rue

Santalaceae - Sandalwood Family

Osyris alba Osyris

Scrophulariaceae - Figwort Family

Bellardia trixago Bellardia
Linaria pelisseriana Jersey Toadflax
Misopates orontium Lesser Snapdragon
Parentucellia latifolia
Parentucellia viscosa Yellow Bartsia
Scrophularia lucida Shining Figwort
Scrophularia peregrina Nettle-leaved Toadflax
Verbascum sinuatum

Solanaceae - Potato Family

Hyoscyamus albus White Henbane

Styracaceae - Storax Family

Styrax officinalis Storax

Tamaricaceae - Tamarix Family

Tamarix smyrensis Tamarisk

Thymelaeaceae - Daphne Family

Daphne sericea
Thymelaea hirsuta Thymelea

Umbelliferae - Carrot Family

Bupleurum gracile A Thorow Wax
Daucus carota Wild Carrot
Eryngium maritimum Sea Holly
Ferula communis subsp. *communis* Giant Fennel
Foeniculum vulgare Fennel
Oenanthe pimpinelloides Corky-Fruited Water Dropwort
Orlaya daucoides
Smyrniolum olusatrum Alexanders
Tordylium apulum Mediterranean Hartwort
Torilis nodosa Knotted Hedge-parsley

Urticaceae - Nettle Family

Parietaria judaica Pellitory of the Wall
Urtica pilulifera Roman Nettle

Valerianaceae - Valerian Family

* *Valeriana asarifolia* Cretan Valerian
Valerianella discoidea A Corn Salad

Verbenaceae - Verbena Family

Vitex agnus-castus Chaste Tree

Violaceae - Violet Family

Viola cretica Cretan Violet

Vitaceae - Vine Family

Vitis vinifera subsp. *vinifera* Grape Vine

b) Monocotyledons

Agavaceae - Agave Family

Agave americana Century Plant

Amaryllidaceae - Daffodil Family

Narcissus tazetta Rose of Sharon (in fruit only)

Pancratium maritimum Sea Daffodil (leaves only)

Araceae - Arum Family

Arisarum vulgare Friar's Cowl

Arum concinatum

Arum creticum Cretan Arum

Dranunculus vulgaris Common Dragon Arum

Cyperaceae - Sedge Family

Schoenus nigricans Black Bog Rush

Graminaceae - Grass Family

Arundo donax Giant Reed

Briza maxima Giant Quaking Grass

Dasypyrum villosum

Lagurus ovatus Hare's-tail

Phragmites australis Reed

Iridaceae - Iris Family

Gladiolus italicus Field Gladiolus

Gynandrisis sisyinchium Barbary Nut

Hermodactylus tuberosus Widow Iris

Iris albicans White Flag Iris

* *Iris unguicularis ssp. cretensis* Cretan Iris

Liliaceae - Lily Family

Allium commutatum Wld Leek

Asphodeline lutea Yellow Asphodel

Asphodelus aestivus Common Asphodel

Drimia maritima (Urginea maritima) Sea Squill

Gagea graeca

Muscari comosum Tassle Hyacinth

Ornithogalum exscapum A Star of Bethlehem

Ornithogalum narbonense A Star of Bethlehem

Smilax aspersa Common Smilax

* *Tulipa cretica* Cretan Tulip

* *Tulipa doerfleri (T. orphanidea)* Orange Wild Tulip

Orchidaceae - Orchid Family

Aceras anthropophorum Man Orchid

Anacamptis pyramidalis Pyramidal Orchid

Barlia robertiana Giant Orchid

Ophrys bombyliflora Bumble Bee Orchid

Ophrys doerfleri (O. cretica) Cretan Bee Orchid

Ophrys fusca Sombre Bee Orchid (now generally split into other species)

Ophrys heldreichii (O. scolopax ssp. heldreichii) Marengo Orchid

Ophrys holoserica subsp. holoserica (O. fuciflora subsp. fuciflora) Late Spider Orchid

Ophrys iricolor Rainbow Orchid

Ophrys lutea Yellow Bee Orchid (now generally split into other species)
Ophrys mammosa (*O. sphegodes* ssp. *mammosa*) Mambose Orchid
Orchis boryi
Orchis collina (*O. saccata*) Fan-Lipped Orchid
Orchis italica Italian Man Orchid
Orchis lactea Milky Orchid
Orchis laxiflora subsp. *laxiflora* Lax-Flowered Orchid
Orchis pauciflora (*O. provincialis* subsp. *pauciflora*) Few-flowered Orchid
Orchis quadripunctata Four-Spotted Orchid
Orchis simia Monkey Orchid
Serapias bergonii (*S. vomeracea* ssp. *laxiflora*) Bergon's Tongue Orchid
Serapias orientalis ssp. *orientalis* - Eastern Tongue Orchid
Serapias parviflora Small-flowered Tongue Orchid

Palmae - Palm Family

Phoenix theophrasti Cretan Palm

Typhaceae - Reedmace Family

Typha domingensis A reedmace

Michael Rebane 2/5/97