



Honeyguide

WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

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Crete
11 – 19 April 2023

Participants

Mervin Nethercoat and Denise Carter
Pat Harding
Denise Back
Slim and Anne Dinsdale

Sue Goldsmith
Jim Coghlan
Neville Broadbent

Leaders

Chris Durdin and Rob Lucking

Report by Rob Lucking, plant list by Chris Durdin. Photos by Chris Durdin unless otherwise noted.
Cover: *Tulipa bakeri* at Omalós; swallowtail (MN) and a migrant whinchat at Plakias.



We stayed at the family-run Hotel Sofia in Plakias, www.sofiahotelplakias.com.
Above: Cretan cyclamen. Below: the group and Vagelis from Hotel Sofia.



As with all Honeyguide holidays, £40 of the price of the holiday was put towards a conservation project, in this case raptor study and protection by the Hellenic Ornithological Society. HOS, BirdLife Greece, is based in Athens and its work covers the whole of Greece and its islands. Honeyguide's donation to HOS for Crete this year was £430, 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 £14,955. The total for all conservation contributions through Honeyguide since 1991 was £146,907, to April 2023.

DAILY DIARY

Tuesday 11 April – to Crete

The group met early at Gatwick and as bag check-in and security took less time than anticipated we convened in the departure lounge for breakfast. Unfortunately, our easyJet flight was delayed due to problems with French air traffic control and we took off 45 minutes late but made up much of this time due to favourable tailwinds and landed in Chania only 10 minutes later than scheduled. As we were completing the paperwork for the minibuses, we saw several alpine swifts and a kestrel and those in Rob's bus saw a cuckoo flying alongside.

Our route took us alongside Souda Bay, a natural deep-water harbour and important port for the Greek navy and NATO forces, before skirting the edge of Chania and then heading east along the north coast of Crete. The landscape was punctuated by bright yellow patches of giant fennel and the pink-flowered Judas tree. It had clearly been a wet and windy day in Crete and as we headed south into Plakias we drove through a heavy rain squall. Fortunately, as we arrived in Plakias, the clouds parted and sun shone! We were efficiently checked into the Sofia Hotel and after unpacking, some of the group explored the village. We dined at the Gorgona taverna.

Wednesday 12 April – Mirthios and Kanevos

After breakfast we gathered outside the hotel, to look at the wayside flora, seeing honeywort, asparagus pea and both common and Cretan tree mallow. A Cetti's warbler sang loudly from the small wetland area behind the hotel. From the bridge across the river in Plakias we saw common sandpiper and white wagtail among the Muscovy ducks.

We then headed inland and upwards towards the village of Mirthios. At the first bridge we came to we spotted a dragonfly which we tentatively identified as vagrant emperor. Later on in the walk we saw many more, confirming our initial identification. Vagrant emperor is long-distant migrant and often turns up in numbers some distance from water. There were a few butterflies on the wing. Commonest were southern speckled woods but we also saw clouded yellows, painted lady, a single red admiral, holly blues and large white. Bird song was largely familiar with chaffinch, blackbird and blue tits all heard and seen. Less familiar were the jingling song of serin and the scratchy song of Sardinian warbler. As the day warmed up, we saw our first griffon vultures circling on the thermals as well as several buzzards and ravens. The plant list grew rapidly as we recorded many common species as well our first Cretan endemics – Cretan cistus, Cretan ebony (not actually an ebony but a member of the legume family) and Cretan viper's grass.

Lunch was at the Dionysos taverna, with its superb view over Plakias bay. The food was so plentiful that many of the group wondered how they were going to fit in dinner as well!



Convolvulus elegantissimus, a favourite wayside flower; and eastern dappled white.

After lunch, Rob and Chris collected the second minibus and met the group back in Mirthios. A quick scan revealed several alpine swifts, more griffon vultures and a very distant Bonelli's eagle. We headed up to the entrance to Kotsiphou Gorge to try for better views of the eagle, but it had moved on. We found several patches of one-flowered clover in the pull-in. We then travelled on to our next stop above the village of Kanevos. We parked by the side of the road in some shady woodland carpeted by the endemic Cretan cyclamen and saw our first friar's cowls. We heard turtle dove calling and a few of the group managed to see the bird before it flew. Heading along the road a little farther into an area of open meadow and scrubland we passed several strawberry trees and some spectacular tree heath. We had good views of a male cirl bunting and a more distant turtle dove perched out in the open for long enough for everyone to see.

Our final stop of the day was in an area of open olive groves and farmland where we found a good number of Italian man orchids and several eastern sawfly orchids. Annie found our first eastern dappled white of the holiday. Dinner was at Muses taverna, a Honeyguide regular.

Thursday 13 April – Kourtaliótiko Gorge, Spili

The pre-breakfast walk was along the beach at Plakias where we were rewarded with an excellent view of a whinchat and a whitethroat. Yesterday's common sandpiper was also still present. New plants included sea medick and the leaves of sea daffodil.



Buzzard with prey (MN); and giant fennel above Kourtaliótiko Gorge.

After breakfast we made up our packed lunches and headed to Kourtaliótiko Gorge where we parked in a lay-by next to the steps leading to the chapel at the bottom of the gorge. As we got ready we heard the song of a blue rock thrush and soon located him on the rocks below. A crag martin gave us a nice close fly-by and gradually the griffon vultures found the thermals and started to cross the gorge. Chris showed us the diminutive *Campanula erinus* growing in the lay-by and we started the walk down into the gorge. We saw the endemic purple-flowered *Ricotia cretica* on our way, along with a fine male black-eared wheatear of the dark-throated form, and our first choughs.

At the bottom of the gorge Chris pointed out the endemic Cretan gorge comfrey and we saw our first Cretan festoon butterflies, now elevated to a full species. We also saw several Cleopatra butterflies – like a brimstone but with large orange areas on the forewing. Several *Styrax* tree were in bloom and we enjoyed their delicate fragrance. Just as we were heading back up to the minibuses, we heard a warbler song that sounded slightly different from the usual Sardinian warbler. We looked up to see a fine male Rüppell's warbler singing from the top of a bush. Unfortunately, it didn't hang around and flew across the gorge to be lost from view.

We left the gorge and took the scenic route over to the town of Spili. A quick stop for photos turned into our lunchtime stop and we enjoyed a spectacular view across the Cretan landscape. After lunch we made our way into Spili for fresh orange juice, coffee and ice cream at one of our regular cafés around the main square next to the famous water fountains.

We then made our way to the famous 'Spili Bumps', more accurately some limestone knolls in the foothills of the Kedros mountains. As we got out of the buses, we were greeted by a singing male stonechat and our first orchids were just over the road – Italian man orchids and loose-flowered or Jersey orchids. Walking down the road we added man orchid and toothed orchid to the list before crossing the road into a small cultivated field full of the endemic red tulip *Tulipa doerfleri*. Along the track to the 'bumps' we found the yellow few-flowered orchid *Orchis pauciflora*, the almost black and white Cretan bee orchid *Ophrys cretica* and two purple flowered orchids – four-spotted orchid *Orchis quadrimaculata* and *Orchis boryi*.



Cretan bee orchid (MN); *Tulipa doerfleri*; and four-spotted orchids.

Corn buntings were singing all around us and at least one, possibly two quails called from the cultivated fields. We picked up a bird of prey which turned out to be a fantastic male Montagu's harrier and watched it quartering the fields and then joined by a female.



View at Spili bumps, with Italian man orchids in the foreground; *Anemone hortensis ssp heldreichii*.

Onto the main 'bump', we found yet more orchids – Cressa orchid *Ophrys cressa*, Marengo orchid *Ophrys (scolopax) heldreichii*, the yellow Phrygana orchid *Ophrys (lutea) phryganae* and mammose orchid *Ophrys (spogodes) mammosa*. We also heard and saw our first woodlark of the holiday.

Back at Plakias, tonight's meal was at the Gio-Ma where we celebrated Denise C's birthday with a magnificent cake.

Friday 14 April – Festos, Agia Triada, Kalamaki Pools & Timbaki lagoon

The pre-breakfast outing was to nearby Souda, just to the west of Plakias. Birds were thin on the ground but great reed warbler and cormorant were new for the list. The main attraction, however, was the stand of the near-endemic Cretan palm.

At breakfast we made up our packed lunches and headed east to the Minoan ruins at Festos/Phaestos, one of the most important palaces of ancient Crete. On the walk from the car park to the cafe we watched a very confiding wood warbler as it fed actively in the trees along the path, and a tree pipit. We heard bee-eaters though they were flying too high for us to pick up. A number of non-native, but interesting nevertheless, trees and shrubs had been planted, including the Peruvian pepper tree whose leaves smelt strongly of pepper, and Indian bead tree.

At the café we refuelled with coffee, orange juice and ice creams and a few of the group decided to walk around the archaeological site. The rest started the gentle walk along the road towards Agia Triada.

We found a single bryony ladybird on squirting cucumber plants near the car park. This species is extending its European range northwards and it can now be found in the UK, albeit in southern counties at the moment, where it can be found on white bryony. We had excellent views of a pair of woodchat shrikes and heard our first hoopoe. There was a range of flora on show including the bi-coloured *Bellardia*, a member of the bartsia family, and castor oil plant, the source of castor oil and the deadly poison ricin.

We ate our packed lunches at Agia Triada where we saw a flock of around 20 cattle egrets feeding within a flock of sheep, and another new orchid – heart-flowered serapias. We then headed off towards the coast to some wetland sites. On the way we crossed a river and the first bus over flushed a squacco heron which promptly disappeared from view. A little egret was more obliging as were two wood sandpipers.

Our first port of call was Kalamaki Pools and on the track leading to the site we saw our first bee-eaters and enjoyed good views as they chased bees and landed on convenient perches. We parked the buses and soon picked up three glossy ibises flying away from us. Walking through the dunes leading to the pools we came across a new species of butterfly for Honeyguide in Crete – two plain tigers, or African monarch. This is a migratory species widespread across Africa and Asia but in Europe, only regularly found in the south. The caterpillars of this species accumulate alkaloid poisons from their food plants which protects them from predation. We carried on to the pools where we saw our first black-winged stilts along with two ruffs, two wood sandpipers and a greenshank. Two northern wheatears were foraging in the dunes.

Our final stop was at the coastal lagoon at Katayki, near Timbaki. Here there was a nice selection of waders including marsh sandpiper, little stint, curlew sandpiper, little ringed plover and common snipe. We also saw our first Spanish sparrows and two yellow wagtails flew over calling but didn't land. Dinner was at the Sirocco taverna.

Saturday 15 April – Moní Préveli

The pre-breakfast walk was behind the hotel at Plakias. While loading the buses we heard a great reed warbler singing in the damp area behind the hotel. A few of the group managed to see it briefly as it flew out from the giant reeds to catch an insect.

Our first stop was the monastery at Moní Préveli. As we got out of the buses we could hear bee-eaters, so we scanned the sky and picked up a mixed flock of bee-eaters and alpine swifts. We could also hear chukar calling and after a bit of searching we found several birds on the opposite hillside. As we walked down towards the sea, we found eastern black-eared wheatears and heard woodlark singing. Most of the group had a look around the monastery, famous for giving shelter to allied troops hiding from the occupying German forces during WW2, and we admired the captive peacocks. We stopped at the WW2 memorial where we heard ortolan bunting singing but failed to see it despite it being quite close to us. Two peregrines provided some compensation. Our lunch stop was the nearby Turkish Bridge and most of the group took advantage of the taverna for drinks and ice creams.

We got back to Plakias for an afternoon at leisure. Some went for a short walk with Chris around the backstreets of Plakias, a floral highlight being the diminutive *Solenopsis annua*. Others spent time looking around the shops. A flock of 24 little egrets flew around Plakias Bay and Jim saw 18 whimbrels on the rocks on the harbour. We later saw two whimbrels as we walked down to Apanemo, our taverna for dinner tonight.



Star-of-Bethlehem *Ornithogalum exscapum* by Turkish Bridge, Moní Préveli.
Solenopsis annua (pale blue) mixed with lesser centaury.

Sunday 16 April – Frangocastello

Pre-breakfast birders wandered down to Plakias seafront and walked west a short way. There was no sign of yesterday's little egrets but we did find a single whimbrel, two little ringed plovers and a common sandpiper. We also admired a Pride of Madeira *Echium candicans* planted in front of one of the hotels.

After breakfast we headed out towards Frangocastello, stopping on route at Kotsiphou Gorge. We drew a blank on the Rüppell's warblers again but saw a nice male blue rock thrush, a juvenile male marsh harrier and several griffon vultures on the wing as the day warmed up.



A mandrake, a plant that usually looks a lot scruffier; view at Frangocastello with yellow horned poppies.

We pressed on and arrived at Frangocastello where we parked in the shade of the castle built by the Venetians in the 1370s. We walked out along the coastal path and found our first mandrakes, including one quite splendid specimen with four fruits. It is a member of the Solanaceae family (which includes tomatoes, potatoes and aubergines, to name but a few) and its roots are thick and twisted, and as they sometimes resemble a human form they have been associated with magic rituals and folklore throughout history.

Our first purple heron of the holiday flew east and we had good views of crested larks along the track. Chris pointed out red-topped sage and rock samphire while later on we saw a single caper plant. We retraced our steps, stopping at the taverna where we enjoyed fresh orange juice and coffee. From the taverna we saw our first hoopoes, having only heard them on previous days, and a red-throated pipit flew over calling as we walked back to the vans for lunch.

After lunch we walked down to the beach looking for 'nun's farts' – matted balls of sea grass (*Posidonia*, also called Neptune grass). Chris only found a single example perhaps suggesting the local nuns were less flatulent this year. More numerous were tiger beetles on the solid sandy substrates. Sue collected a good range of shells.

After Frangocastello we headed back towards Plakias stopping at a lay-by just to the east of Rodakino where Chris had seen ortolan bunting in previous years. Incredibly, he spotted one right away perched atop a distant rock. Buoyed by our success we headed back to Kotsiphou Gorge where we found a Bonelli's eagle as soon as we got out of the minibuses! The Rüppell's warblers were playing harder to get and most of the group opted for a trip to Souda to see the near-endemic Cretan palm. A few persevered with the warblers and we eventually managed views of a female.

Dinner tonight, on Greek Easter Sunday, was back at Muses where most of the group had the Easter lamb.

Monday 17 April – Agia Lake and Omalós Plateau

There was no pre-breakfast walk this morning as we needed a slightly earlier start for our long drive to the Omalós plateau.

We made a pit stop at Agia Lake, one of the best wetland sites in Crete although the birdwatching is less easy these days due to the well-established vegetation around the perimeter of the lake. Nevertheless, we found our first coots and little grebe of the holiday and several red-rumped swallows and bee-eaters came down with a mixed flock of swifts and hirundines to drink from the lake. We also recorded three new species of Odonata for the holiday – lesser emperor, winter damselfly and blue-tailed damselfly.

We scoured the vegetated edges of the lake for little crake. Rob saw one fleetingly, but a group of Balkan (or stripe-necked) terrapins were more obliging, as was a Balkan green lizard.

Then onto the Omalós plateau (technically a mountain plain) a flat area of land surrounded by the White Mountains. The road climbed higher and higher through hairpin bends and switch-backs and for a while we followed a pick-up truck fully laden with sheep being taken up to their summer grazing. Eventually the road flattened out onto the plain itself which is divided into small 'fields', some of which are cultivated, some grazed and others containing fruit trees. We stopped by one field containing the endemic tulip *Tulipa bakeri*. The Omalós plateau is the stronghold of this species and it only persists on ungrazed land. We explored the roadsides finding a fine tree frog, listening to woodlark song and enjoying the floristic spectacle.

We drove along to the head of the Samaria Gorge and Chris showed us the Cretan zelkova tree, a relative of the elm and Crete's only endemic tree with almost the entire population confined to Omalós. We admired the view into Samaria Gorge and then climbed the steps to the cafe seeing burnt candytuft, Cretan mouse-ear and the more familiar *Aubretia*.



Wild Aubretia and crown anemones, both on Omalós plateau.

After refreshments we continued around the plateau seeing more tulips, hundreds of crown anemones and a few specimens of widow iris. We stopped by a small, shallow pond – defined as a Mediterranean Temporary Pond, a very rare habitat in Europe. We saw four blue-headed yellow wagtails feeding among the sheep along with several northern wheatears and a fine woodchat shrike.

Sadly, with a long drive back, we had to leave this incredible site and headed back to Plakias. Dinner tonight was a return visit to Apanemo.

Tuesday 18 April – Damnoni Beach, Honeyguide’s Secret Valley and a return to Spili

A short pre-breakfast walk this morning with little to report bar two whimbrels and a little egret. After breakfast we drove the short distance to Damnoni Beach on the other side of the headland on the southern side of Plakias Bay. Chris picked up a flock of eight herons – seven little egrets and a single squacco heron – but they were distant. We found some spectacular clumps of Cretan viper’s grass and scorpion vetch, a small, yellow-flowered pea with a distinctive curved seed pod reminiscent of a scorpion’s tail.



Cretan viper’s grass; toothed orchid *Orchis tridentata*.

We then headed to ‘Honeyguide’s Secret Valley’ where we soon added three new orchids to the list – the familiar pyramidal orchid, fan-lipped or hill orchid (a bit past their best) and the tongue orchid *Serapias lingua*. We also recapped on man orchid, Italian man orchid and Cretan orchid. We were surrounded by the song of corn bunting and woodlark. We headed up the road to an area where previous groups had seen nesting bee-eaters. We were too early last year but as we had been seeing and hearing bee-eaters throughout this year’s holiday we were hoping that our luck would be in. Unfortunately it wasn’t to be and we concluded that they had probably moved on.

We returned to Spili town for lunch and then three of the group went for a return visit to the Spili Bumps area with Chris while Rob took the rest back to Plakias for shopping, postcard writing and packing. The Spili contingent visited two areas just beyond the main ‘bumps’ where we’d been previously. At the first of these, there were two new orchid species: pyramidal orchids and rainbow ophrys, better-looking fan-lipped orchids plus many seen before, especially some lovely toothed orchids. At the second stop, Chris managed to relocate the fritillaries he’d seen many here years ago.

Wednesday 19 April – Armeni Late Minoan Cemetery

After a relaxed breakfast we loaded the minibuses and said our goodbyes to the team at Sophia who looked after us so well and to Jim and Pat who were taking later flights to their respective homes.

On route to the airport we stopped off at new site for Honeyguide – the late Minoan cemetery at Armeni. Set among oak woodland, more than 200 tombs cut into the soft limestone rock have been excavated by archaeologists. By the entrance booth we found our first Valonia oak with its distinctive large-scaled acorn cups. The tombs were surrounded by flower-rich grassland and it wasn’t long before we found another two new orchids for the holiday – pink butterfly orchid and bumblebee orchid. It’s definitely a site to return to in future years! Then we drove to the airport where we left the minibuses, dropped bags and headed back to the UK, having enjoyed eight days of wonderful wildlife and company on one of the loveliest islands of Greece.

Holiday highlights

Denise B	Walk to Mirthios and view from the taverna; Moní Préveli monastery and memorial; colourful carpets of wild flowers; graceful griffons.
Jim	Bee-eaters at close quarters; remarkable number of tulips at Omalós.
Denise C	Tulips at Omalós; Spili bumps; breakfasts.
Mervin	African monarch; bee-eaters; tulips; café at Agia Lake; the company.
Annie	Tulips at Omalós; tulips at Spili; cyclamen in woods; secret valley; vulture in the hole; quality and quantity of breakfasts.
Slim	Coffee in Spili town, tulips; tree frog.
Pat	Tulips; male Montagu’s harrier; the plateau; breakfasts; niceness of people in Plakias.
Neville	The whole experience.
Sue	Cretan bee orchid; crocus; tree frog.
Chris	Vagrant emperors and African Monarch, two exotic migrants; Spili bumps area.
Rob	Omalo’s plateau, landscape and wildlife; vagrant emperors.

WILDLIFE LISTS – BIRDS

Little grebe	2 Agia Lake 17/04
Cormorant	3 Plakias 14/04; 1 Plakias 15/04; 2 Agia Lake 17/04; 1 Plakias 18/04
Squacco heron	1 river near Agia Triada 14/04; one with little egrets Damnoni Beach 18/04
Cattle egret	c. 20 feeding among sheep at Agia Triada
Little egret	3 Plakias 12/04; 1 Plakias 13/04; 1 near Festos 14/04; 2 Plakias 15/04; 24 Plakias 15/04; 2 Plakias 16/04; 1 Plakias, 7 Damnoni Beach 18/04
Grey heron	1 on the north coast from Rob's bus 11/04
Purple heron	1 Frangocastello 16/04
Glossy ibis	3 Timbaki Pools 14/04
Mute swan	1 Agia Lake 17/04
Montagu's harrier	2 Spili Bumps 13/04
Marsh harrier	1 Kotsiphou Gorge, 1 Frangocastello 16/04; 1 Agia Lake 17/04
Common buzzard	Small numbers seen throughout
Bonelli's eagle	1 seen distantly from Mirthios 12/04; 1 Kotsiphou Gorge 16/04
Kestrel	Small numbers seen most days
Peregrine	2 Moní Préveli 15/04
Quail	1–2 calling Spili Bumps 13/04
Chukar	3–4 Moní Préveli 15/04; heard calling at Kotsiphou Gorge 16/04
Moorhen	1 Timbaki Pools 14/04; several Agia Lake 17/04
Coot	Several Agia Lake 17/04
Black-winged stilt	3 Kalamaki Pools, 2 Timbaki Pools 14/04
Little ringed plover	2 Timbaki Pools 14/04; 1 Souda 15/04; 2 Plakias 16/04; 1 Damnoni Beach 18/04
Little stint	2 Timbaki Pools 14/04
Curlew sandpiper	2 Timbaki Pools 14/04
Ruff	2 Kalamaki Pools, 2 Timbaki Pools 14/04
Snipe	1 Timbaki Pools 14/04
Whimbrel	On the rocks at Plakias: c. 18 on 15/04, seen again on 16/04 & 18/04
Marsh sandpiper	1 Timbaki Pools 14/04
Greenshank	1 Kalamaki Pools 14/04
Wood sandpiper	2, river near Agia Triada, 2 Kalamaki Pools, c. 10 Timbaki Pools 14/04
Common sandpiper	1 Plakias 12/04; 1 Plakias 13/04; 1 Souda & 1 Timbaki Pools 14/04; 1 Plakias 16/04
Yellow-legged gull	Widespread & seen at all coastal sites
Feral pigeon/Rock dove	Seen daily. Some in the gorges looked good for rock dove, many didn't!
Woodpigeon	Several seen in the woodland above Kanevos 12/04, 1 Kourталиότικο Gorge 13/03; 1 Festos 14/04; 1 Moní Préveli 15/04
Collared dove	Common and widespread, especially in the lowlands around towns & villages
Turtle dove	Several heard and seen in the woodland above Kanevos 12/04; one from Chris's bus on the way home from Spili 13/04
Cuckoo	1 flew alongside Rob's bus as we were leaving the airport 11/04
Common swift	c.20 Frangocastello 16/04; several Agia Lake 17/04
Alpine swift	Several at the airport 11/04; also seen from Mythios, Kotsiphou Gorge and above Kanevos 12/04; c. 20 Moní Préveli 15/04; several in with common swift at Frangocastello 16/04; several with hirundines at Agia Lake & Omalós Plateau 17/04
Bee-eater	Heard at Festos and along the road to Agia Triada, c.20 Kalamaki Pools 14/04; c. 20 Moní Préveli and 15 by Turkish bridge 15/04; heard Frangocastello 16/04; several Agia lake 17/04; heard Honeyguides Secret Valley 18/04
Hoopoe	1 heard from road to Agia Triada 14/04; 1 heard Plakias 15/04; 1–2 Frangocastello 16/04
Crested lark	Several Kalamaki Pools 14/04; several Moní Préveli 15/04; several Frangocastello 16/04
Woodlark	Seen and heard Spili Bumps 13/04; at Moní Préveli 15/04; seen and heard Omalós Plateau 17/04; at least 2 at Honeyguide's Secret Valley 18/04
Sand martin	Small numbers seen on most dates throughout.
Crag martin	Several Kourталиότικο Gorge 13/04; 2 Kotsiphou Gorge 16/04; 2 Omalós Plateau 17/04
Swallow	Seen in good numbers throughout.
Red-rumped swallow	Several Agia lake 17/04; 2 Spili 18/04
House martin	Small numbers seen throughout
Tawny pipit	1 from Chris's bus at Timbaki Pools 14/04
Tree pipit	1 Festos 14/04
Red-throated pipit	2 at Frangocastello 16/04
Yellow wagtail	2 flew over Timbaki Pools 14/04; 4 blue-headed wagtails Omalós Plateau 17/04
White wagtail	1 Plakias 12/04; 1 Frangocastello 16/04; 1 Plakias 18/04
Wren	Heard Agia lake 17/04
Whinchat	1 Plakias 13/04; 1 Spili Bumps 13/04
Stonechat	1 Spili Bumps 13/04; 1 Moní Préveli 15/04; pair with 3 fledged young Frangocastello 16/04; several on Omalós plateau 17/04; pair at Honeyguides's Secret Valley 18/04
Northern wheatear	2 Kalamaki pools 14/04; several Frangocastello 16/04; 5/6 Omalós Plateau 17/04
Eastern black-eared wheatear	2 Kourталиότικο Gorge 13/04; 2 Moní Préveli 15/04; 2 Kotsiphou Gorge 16/04
Blue rock thrush	1 Kourталиότικο Gorge 13/04; 1 Kotsiphou Gorge 16/04
Blackbird	Small numbers seen and heard throughout. Represented in Crete by the subspecies <i>Turdus merula insularum</i> , endemic to Crete and Rhodes
Cetti's warbler	Heard Plakias throughout; in woodland above Kanevos 12/04; Kalamaki Pools 14/04

Reed warbler	1 singing Agia lake 17/04
Great reed warbler	1 heard Souda 14/04; 1 Plakias 15/04; 1 heard Souda 16/04
Sardinian warbler	Common and widespread
Rüppell's warbler	1 (male) Kourtaliótiko Gorge 13/04; female at Kotsiphou Gorge 16/04
Whitethroat	1 Plakias 13/03
Blackcap	Heard in most wooded areas throughout
Wood warbler	1 on way up to Mirthios 12/04; 1 Festos 14/04
Pied flycatcher	1 in woodland above Kanevos 12/04
Blue tit	Seen in small numbers most days
Great tit	Seen in small numbers most days. Represented on Crete by endemic subspecies <i>Parus major niethemmeri</i>
Golden oriole	1–2 en route to Frangocastello 16/04
Woodchat shrike	1 in woodland above Kanevos 12/04; 2 along road to Agia Triada 13/04; 1 Frangocastello 16/04; 1 Omalós Plateau 17/04
Chough	2 Kourtaliótiko Gorge 13/04
Jackdaw	Common in Kourtaliótiko Gorge 13/04
Jay	2 Omalós Plateau 17/04. Represented on Crete by an endemic subspecies <i>Garrulus glandarius cretorum</i>
Hooded crow	Common and widespread
Raven	Seen most days in small numbers
Italian sparrow	Common and widespread.
Spanish sparrow	c. 20 Timbaki Pools 14/04; several Plakias 15/04
Chaffinch	Common and widespread
Serin	Heard from the path up to Mirthios 12/04; 1 Agia lake 17/04
Greenfinch	Heard Spili 13/03; several seen Festos 14/04; 1 Kotsiphou Gorge 16/04
Goldfinch	Small numbers seen most days
Linnet	Seen or heard on 4 days
Cirl bunting	Male in woodland above Kanevos 12/04
Ortolan bunting	Heard only Moní Préveli 15/04; 1 near Rodakano 16/04
Corn bunting	Several at Spili Bumps 13/04; several at Moní Préveli 15/04; several Frangocastello 16/04; common on Omalós plateau 17/04; common Honeyguide's Secret Valley 18/04

AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES					
European tree frog	Cretan marsh frog	Cretan wall lizard	Balkan green lizard	Balkan (Stripe-necked) terrapin	
MAMMALS (all roadkill)			FISH		
Stone marten	Badger	Eastern hedgehog	Grey mullet		
BUTTERFLIES & MOTHS					
Swallowtail	Scarce swallowtail	Cretan festoon	Large white	Small white	
Eastern dappled white	Clouded yellow	Holly blue	Common blue	Southern comma	
Red admiral	Painted lady	Southern speckled wood	Wall brown	Lulworth Skipper	African monarch
MOTHS Pine processionary moth (tents)			Silver-Y		
BEES, WASPS AND FLIES					
<i>Xylocopa violacea</i> violet carpenter bee		<i>Bombylius fimbriatus</i> a bee-fly			
<i>Polistes gallicum</i> a paper wasp		<i>Megascolia flavifrons (maculata)</i> a mammoth wasp			
BUGS AND BEETLES					
<i>Graphosoma italicum</i> a black & red bug		<i>Cicindela littoralis</i> a tiger beetle			
<i>Carpocoris mediterraneus</i> a shield bug		<i>Coccinella 7-punctata</i> seven-spotted ladybird			
<i>Oxythyrea cinctella</i> a black-and-white flower chafer (white border to thorax)		<i>Henosepilachna elaterii</i> Gourd or bryony ladybird			
<i>Eurydema spectabilis</i> a brassica bug		<i>Eurygaster maura</i> Scarce tortoise shieldbug			
ODONATA					
<i>Ischnura elegans</i> Blue-tailed damselfly		<i>Sympecma fusca</i> Winter damselfly		<i>Anax ephipigger</i> Vagrant emperor	
<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i> Red-veined darter				<i>Anax parthenope</i> Lesser emperor	
ORTHOPTERA AND OTHER INVERTEBRATES					
<i>Truxalis nasuta</i> Nosey cone-headed grasshopper		<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i> Egyptian grasshopper		<i>Oedipoda germanica</i> Red-winged grasshopper	
Cretan door snail <i>Albinaria inflata</i>					

CRETE PLANT LIST 2023

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 P = Planted 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>Ceterach officinarum</i>	Rustyback fern
	<i>Equisetum ramosissimum</i>	Great horsetail
	<i>Polypodium cambricum</i> ssp. <i>australe</i>	Southern polypody
	<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
	<i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i> ssp. <i>macrocarpa</i>	Prickly juniper
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 or umbrella pine
FLOWERING PLANTS Dicotyledons		
Acanthaceae Acanthus Family	<i>Acanthus spinosus</i>	Spiny bear's breech
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
	# <i>Schinus molle</i>	Peruvian peppertree
Apiaceae (=Umbelliferae) Carrot Family	* <i>Chaerophyllum creticum</i>	(Omalós, yellow)
	<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	Rock samphire
	<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild carrot
	<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field eryngo
	* <i>Ferulago thyrsoiflora</i>	(in Kotsiphou gorge)
	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel
	<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i>	Corky-fruited water dropwort
	<i>Scandix australis</i>	
	<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's needle
	<i>Smyrniolus olusatrum</i>	Alexanders
	<i>Smyrniolus perfoliatum</i> ssp. <i>rotundifolium</i>	Perfoliate alexanders
	<i>Tordylium apulum</i> (fruit 5-8mm)	Mediterranean hartwort
	<i>Tordylium officianale</i> (fruit 2-3mm)	a hartwort
Asteraceae (Compositae) Daisy Family	<i>Anthemis chia</i>	Mayweed
	<i>Anthemis rigida</i>	Rayless chamomile
	<i>Asteriscus (Bubonium) aquaticus</i>	
	<i>Bellis longifolia</i>	
	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy
	<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Field marigold
	<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i> var. <i>coronarium (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>Crepis vesicaria</i>	Beaked hawksbeard
	<i>Crupina crupinastrum</i>	Crupina
	<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	Aromatic inula
	<i>Filago pyramidata</i>	Broad-leaved cudweed
	<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Mediterranean thistle
	<i>Helichrysum conglobatum</i>	a curry-plant without scent
	<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>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk thistle
	<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 undulata</i> (=A. <i>hybrida</i>)	
	<i>Anchusa azurea</i> (=A. <i>italica</i>)	Large blue alkanet
	<i>Cerithe major</i>	Honeywort
	<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	Blue hound's-tongue
	<i>Echium angustifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved bugloss
	<i>Echium italicum</i>	Pale bugloss
	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple viper's-bugloss
	<i>Myosotis ramosissima</i>	Small forget-me-not
	<i>Onosma erecta</i>	A goldendrop, grows at 200- 800m, fls 2-2.5 cm (Omalós)
	<i>Onosma graecum</i>	Goldendrop (v. hairy corolla, fls 1.5 cm and purple-tingled)
	<i>Symphytum creticum</i> (<i>Procopiaia cretica</i>)	Procopiaia or Cretan gorge comfrey
Cactaceae Cactus Family	# <i>Opuntia ficus-barbarica</i> (<i>O. ficus-indica</i>)	Prickly pear
Campanulaceae Bellflower Family	<i>Campanula erinus</i>	
	* <i>Petromarula pinnata</i>	Cretan wall lettuce
	* <i>Solenopsis minuta</i> ssp. <i>annua</i> (<i>Laurentia gasparrinii</i>)	
Capparaceae Caper Family	<i>Capparis spinosa</i>	Caper
Caprifoliaceae Honeysuckle Family	# <i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder
Caryophyllaceae Pink Family	* <i>Cerastium scaposum</i>	Cretan mouse-ear
	<i>Petrorhagia velutina</i> (<i>Kohlrauschia velutina</i>)	
	<i>Silene cretica</i>	
	<i>Silene colorata</i>	Mediterranean catchfly
	<i>Silene dichotoma</i>	Forked catchfly
	<i>Silene gallica</i>	Small-flowered catchfly
	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder campion
	<i>Stellaria sp</i>	A chickweed
Chenopodiaceae Goosefoot Family	<i>Arthrocnemum macrostachyum</i> (=A. <i>fruticosum</i>)	Glaucous glasswort
	<i>Chenopodium murale</i>	Nettle-leaved goosefoot
	<i>Salicornia europaea</i>	Marsh samphire or glasswort
Cistaceae Rockrose Family	<i>Cistus (incanus ssp.) 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 epithimum</i>	Dodder
Crassulaceae Stonecrop Family	<i>Crassula alata</i>	(with <i>Solenopsis</i>)
	<i>Sedum litoreum</i>	(yellow)
	<i>Umbilicus horizontalis</i>	Navelwort / wall pennywort
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>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's-purse
	<i>Erophila verna</i>	Whitlow-grass
	<i>Erysimum raulini</i>	Crete wallflower
	<i>Matthiola tricuspidata</i>	Three-horned stock
	<i>Nasturtium officinale</i>	Watercress
	<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	Wild radish
	* <i>Ricotia cretica</i>	Ricotia
	<i>Sinapis arvensis</i>	Charlock
Cucurbitaceae Cucumber Family	<i>Ecballium elaterium</i>	Squirting cucumber
	<i>Bryonia cretica</i> ssp. <i>cretica</i>	Cretan white bryonia
Dipsacaceae Scabious Family	<i>Knautia integrifolia</i> ssp. <i>mimica</i>	a two-tone scabious
	<i>Scabiosa maritima</i>	Mournful widow
Dioscoraceae Yam Family	<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black bryony
Ericaceae Heather Family	<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry-tree
	<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree-heath
Euphorbiaceae Spurge Family	<i>Euphorbia 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>Acacia cyanophylla</i>	Mimosa / blue-leaved wattle
	<i>Anagyris foetida</i>	Bean trefoil
	<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</i> (= <i>Securigera</i>) <i>parviflora</i>	yellow or pink flowers
	<i>Coronilla scorpioides</i> (see also <i>Securigera</i> ssp.)	Scorpion-vetch
	* <i>Ebenus cretica</i>	Shrubby sainfoin (Cretan ebony)
	<i>Lathyrus articulatus</i> or <i>clymenum</i>	Similar two-tone vetches
	<i>Lathyrus setifolius</i>	Brown vetch
	<i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	Greater birdsfoot trefoil
	<i>Lupinus pilosus</i>	A blue lupin
	<i>Medicago arborea</i>	Tree medick
	<i>Medicago arabica</i>	Spotted medick
	<i>Medicago marina</i>	Sea medick
	<i>Medicago polymorpha</i>	Toothed medick
	<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Lucerne NiF
	<i>Melilotus sulcatus</i>	Small melilot
	<i>Onobrychis caput-galli</i>	Cock's-comb sainfoin
	<i>Ononis (natrix) hispanica</i>	Large yellow restharrow
	<i>Ononis reclinata</i>	Small restharrow
	# <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	False acacia
	<i>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 resupinatum</i>	Reversed clover
	<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>	Starry clover
	<i>Trifolium uniflorum</i>	One-flowered clover
	<i>Tripodion (Anthyllis) tetraphyllum</i>	Bladder vetch
	<i>Vicia</i> sp.	a tare, unidentified
	<i>Vicia cretica</i>	pink, protected by spiny shrub
	<i>Vicia hybrida</i>	Hairy yellow vetchling
	<i>Vicia lutea</i>	Yellow vetch
	<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common vetch
	<i>Vicia villosa</i>	Fodder vetch
Fagaceae Oak Family	<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	Kermes or prickly oak
	<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holm or evergreen oak
Deciduous oaks on Crete, both doubtfully native		
	<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>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-wort
	<i>Centaureum pulchellum</i>	Lesser centaury
Geraniaceae Geranium Family	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common storksbill
	<i>Erodium gruinum</i>	Long-beaked storksbill
	<i>Erodium malacoides</i>	Mallow-leaved storksbill
	<i>Geranium columbinum</i>	Long-stalked cranesbill
	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved cranesbill
	<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	Little robin
	<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved cranesbill
Lamiaceae (=Labiatae) Mint Family	<i>Ballota pseudodictamnus</i>	
	<i>Coridothymus (Thymus) capitatus</i>	Shrubby thyme
	<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	Henbit dead-nettle
	<i>Lavandula stoechas</i> P	French lavender
	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	White horehound
	<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	Jerusalem sage
	<i>Prasium majus</i>	Spanish hedge-nettle
	<i>Salvia arvensis</i>	Field woundwort
	<i>Salvia fruticosa</i> (formerly <i>S. triloba</i>)	Shrubby or 3-leaved sage
	<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	Wild clary

	<i>Salvia viridis</i>	Red-topped sage
	<i>Satureja (Micromeria) nervosa</i>	
	<i>Stachys cretica</i>	Mediterranean woundwort
	* <i>Scutellaria sieberi</i>	Cretan skullcap
	<i>Teucrium alpestre</i>	
Linaceae Flax Family	<i>Linum arboreum</i>	Tree flax
	<i>Linum bienne</i>	Pale flax
Lythracea Loosestrife Family	<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
Myoporaceae Myoporum Family	# <i>Myoporum laetum</i> P	Ngaio (from New Zealand)
Myrtaceae Myrtle Family	<i>Myrtus communis</i> subsp. <i>communis</i>	Common myrtle
Oleaceae Olive Family	<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive
Orobanchaceae Broomrape Family	<i>Orobanche lavandulacea</i>	on pitch trefoil
	<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>	branched
	<i>Plantago bellardii</i>	
	<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Buckshorn plantain
	<i>Plantago lagopus</i>	Haresfoot plantain
	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort plantain
Platanaceae Plane Tree Family	<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	Oriental plane
Polygalaceae Milkwort Family	<i>Polygala venulosa</i>	Eastern milkwort
	# <i>Polygala x dalmatisiana</i>	Sweet pea shrub
Polygonaceae Dock Family	<i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i>	Horned dock
Primulaceae Primrose Family	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	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>Anemone hortensis</i> ssp. <i>heldreichii</i>	
	<i>Nigella damascena</i>	Love-in-a-mist
	<i>Ranunculus asiaticus</i>	Turban buttercup
	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i> ssp. <i>chrysocephalus</i>	Lesser celandine
	<i>Ranunculus ophioglossifolius</i>	(fen at Frangocastello)
	<i>Ranunculus peltatus</i> ssp. <i>fucoides</i>	Pond water-crowfoot
Resedaceae Mignonette Family	<i>Reseda alba</i>	White mignonette
	<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>Sarcopterium spinosum</i>	Thorny burnet
Rubiaceae Bedstraw Family	* <i>Asperula pubescens</i> (<i>A. incana</i>)	showy, pale pink, on calcareous cliffs
	<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers
	<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Wild madder
	<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Field madder
	<i>Valantia hispida</i>	
Rutaceae Rue Family	# <i>Citrus limon</i>	Lemon
	# <i>Citrus sinensis</i>	Orange
	<i>Ruta chalepensis</i>	Rue
Santalaceae Sandalwood Family	<i>Osyris alba</i>	Osyris
Saxifragaceae Saxifrage Family	<i>Saxifraga carpetana</i> ssp. <i>graeca</i>	Omalós
Scrophulariaceae Figwort Family	<i>Bellardia trixago</i>	Bellardia
	<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-leaved toadflax
	<i>Linaria pelisseriana</i>	Jersey toadflax
	<i>Misopates orontium</i>	Lesser snapdragon (weasel's snout)
	<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	Southern red bartsia
	<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	Yellow bartsia
	<i>Scrophularia lucida</i>	Shining figwort
	<i>Scrophularia lyrata</i>	a water figwort
	* <i>Verbascum arcturus</i>	Hanging mullein

	<i>Verbascum macrurum</i>	
	<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	
	<i>Veronica cymbalaria</i>	
Solanaceae Nightshade Family	<i>Hyoscyamus albus</i>	White henbane
	<i>Mandragora autumnalis</i>	Mandrake
	# <i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	Tree tobacco
	<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	Black nightshade
Styracaceae Storax Family	<i>Styrax officinalis</i>	Storax
Tamaricaceae Tamarix Family	# <i>Tamarix smyrnensis</i>	
Thymelaeaceae Daphne Family	<i>Daphne sericea</i>	(pink, Spili)
	<i>Thymelaea hirsuta</i>	Thymelea
Ulmaceae Elm Family	<i>Zelcova abelicea</i>	Zelcova or ambelitsiá
Urticaceae Nettle Family	<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory of the wall
	<i>Urtica pilulifera</i>	Roman nettle
Valerianaceae Valerian Family	<i>Centranthus calcitrapae</i>	
	* <i>Valeriana asarifolia</i>	Cretan valerian
Verbenaceae Verbena Family	# <i>Lantana cámara</i>	Lantana
	<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Chaste tree
Violaceae Violet Family	* <i>Viola cretica</i>	
Vitaceae Vine Family	<i>Vitus vinifera</i>	Grape vine
Monocotyledons		
Agavaceae Agave Family	# <i>Agave americana</i>	Century plant
Amaryllidaceae Daffodil Family	<i>Pancratium maritimum</i> NiF	Sea daffodil (leaves only)
Araceae Arum Family	<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	Friar's cowl
	<i>Arum concinatum</i>	
	<i>Dracunculus vulgaris</i>	Dragon arum
Areaceae Palm Family	<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	Canary date palm
	<i>Phoenix theophrasti</i>	Cretan palm
Iridaceae Iris Family	<i>Crocus sieberi</i> ssp. <i>sieberi</i>	
	<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Field gladiolus
	<i>Gynandryis monophylla</i>	
	<i>Gynandryis sisyrrinchium</i>	Barbary nut
	<i>Iris</i> (was <i>Hermodactylus</i>) <i>tuberosus</i>	Widow iris
	# <i>Iris albicans</i>	
	* <i>Iris (unguicularis) cretica</i>	Cretan iris
	<i>Iris pseudocorus</i>	Yellow flag
Liliaceae Lily Family	<i>Asphodeline lutea</i>	Yellow asphodel
	<i>Asphodelus ramosus (aestivus)</i>	Common asphodel
	<i>Charybdis (Drimia, Urginea) maritima</i>	Sea squill
	<i>Fritillaria messanensis</i> ssp. <i>sphaciotica</i>	Cretan fritillary
	<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>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's broom
	* <i>Tulipa (saxatilis) bakeri</i>	(pink, Omalós)
	* <i>Tulipa cretica</i>	Cretan tulip (whitish, at Kourtaliótiko)
	* <i>Tulipa doerfleri</i>	(red, Spili)
	<i>Tulipa saxatilis</i>	Rock tulip NiF
Orchidaceae Orchid Family	<i>Aceras anthropophorum</i>	Man orchid
	<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal orchid
	<i>Barlia robertiana</i>	Giant orchid
	<i>Ophrys bombyliflora</i>	Bumblebee orchid
	<i>Ophrys (fusca) cressa</i>	Cressa 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 iricolor</i>	Rainbow orchid
	<i>Ophrys (lutea) phryganae</i>	Phrygana orchid – a yellow bee orchid; hairy speculum
	<i>Ophrys (sphegodes) herae</i>	Hera's ophrys
	<i>Ophrys (sphegodes) mammosa</i>	Mammose orchid
	<i>Ophrys sphegodes</i> ssp. <i>cretensis</i>	Early spider orchid
	<i>Ophrys (tenthradiniifera) villosa</i>	Eastern sawfly orchid
	<i>Orchis boryi</i>	
	<i>Orchis collina</i>	Fan-lipped or hill orchid
	<i>Orchis italica</i>	Italian man orchid
	<i>Orchis laxiflora</i>	Loose-flowered orchid
	<i>Orchis (provincialis) pauciflora</i>	Few-flowered orchid
	<i>Orchis quadripunctata</i>	Four-spotted orchid

	<i>Orchis papilionacea</i> ssp. <i>alibertis</i>	Albertis's butterfly orchid
	<i>Orchis tridentata</i>	Toothed orchid
	<i>Serapias cordigera</i> ssp. <i>cretica</i>	
	<i>Serapias lingua</i>	Tongue orchid
	<i>Serapias orientalis</i>	
Poaceae Grass Family	<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant reed
	<i>Avena</i> sp	oats
	<i>Briza maxima</i>	Greater quaking-grass
	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Bermuda grass
	<i>Hordeum</i> sp.	a barley
	<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	Hare's-tail
	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common reed
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>	
Fungus	<i>Inonotus tamaricis</i>	Tamarisk bracket fungus
Gall	an epiphyte pathogen (bacterium) <i>Pseudomonas savastanoi</i>	Olive knot
	<i>Cynips quercusfolii</i>	Cherry gall, on downy oak
	<i>Andricus infectorius</i>	Dyer's gall, on downy oak



Corn bunting on perfoliate alexanders (RL); African monarch (MN).



At Armeni Late Minoan Cemetery: bumblebee ophrys and Valonia oak cups and acorns.