

Honeyguide

WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

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DISCOVERING MENORCA

14 – 21 May 2010

Menorca
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Holiday participants

Anne and Bill Adams
Norman Sheppard
Mike and Margaret Poulton

Leader: Chris Gibson

Flight cancellations, like so many due to volcanic ash, meant that the Honeyguide group due to be on Menorca from 16 – 23 April was unable to go, called off on the day of departure. Five of the original group of eleven were able to travel on these later dates in May, and we hope the others can travel another year.

Our base at Matchani Gran: <http://menorcacountryhouse.com>

Also joining the group during the week was Montse Bau i Puig from GOB

(*Grup Balear d'Ornitologia i Defensa de la Naturalesa*)

Following this year's holiday, Montse wrote this report, in Menorquin, for GOB Menorca's web site

www.gobmenorca.com/noticies/100610/

Holiday report by Chris Gibson

Front cover photo: Purple heron with viperine snake by Mike Poulton

All other photos by Chris Gibson



As with all Honeyguide holidays, part of the price of this one was put towards a conservation project, in this case for GOB's work in Menorca. The conservation contribution this year of £35 per person was supplemented, by gift aid through the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust, leading to a total of £215/€231 given to the Grup Balear d'Ornitologia i Defensa de la Naturalesa (GOB Menorca – see www.gobmenorca.com/english).

To date, this brings the sum of our donations to GOB to £8,877. The conservation contributions from all Honeyguide holidays since 1991, as at July 2010, totals £66,527.

Discovering Menorca 14-21 May 2010

Day 1, 14 May: Arrival and orientation around Matchani Gran

It was a lovely sunny morning at Luton as the small group – those who were able to get to Menorca after the holiday the previous month had to be abandoned due to volcanic dust emanating from Iceland – departed a little later than scheduled from British soil. As we crossed the continent, so the cloud gathered, and our arrival at Mahón was heralded by heavy cloud, humid air and abundant signs of previous heavy rain. There I received news that those on the Birmingham flight had missed their plane, but fortunately had been able to rebook on one due to arrive in the evening.

Lawrence (our host) and Shaun (the previous owner) were there to meet us and guide us to our minibus and thence to our base at nearby Matchani Gran, taking in the first birds of the trip – house sparrows, house martins and our first red kite very close to the road.

First on the agenda was a drink in the bar where we were introduced to Yola, Lawrence's wife, Jenny, outstanding cook and Shaun's wife to boot, and the two Aylesbury ducks which somewhat alarmingly had adopted the swimming pool. Common swifts and swallows flew overhead and swathes of nightingale and Cetti's warbler song, with a short burst of orphean warbler, came from the dense bushes in the 'Wild Wood' next to the house. A few minutes then to unpack before we tucked in appreciatively to a delightful lunch of freshly cooked quiche and salad.

Keen to get exploring despite the noisy intrusion of the airport (the wind was in the wrong direction) and the ominous rumbling of thunder off to the west, it was time to explore the fields surrounding our base. As we assembled there was a chance to familiarise ourselves with the bread-and-butter bird song that would accompany us all week – Sardinian warbler, turtle dove, nightingale, corn bunting and Thekla lark.

The most startling feature of the fields is the asphodels which seem slowly to be taking over. These spectacular plants grow to nearly 2 metres, and while impressive, albeit largely past flowering now, they do tend to suppress other plants coming through, as well as being indicative of over-grazing. But with a bit of searching there were plenty of other plants to find, especially tucked away from the attentions of the munching sheep and donkeys. Crown daisy, mostly of the 'poached-egg' form *discolor*, tassel hyacinth, mallow-leaved bindweed, purple viper's-bugloss, masses of blue scarlet pimpernel and the striking lemon-yellow dandelion *Urospermum* created bold splashes of colour, although the orchids which are so apparent here a month earlier were nowhere to be seen.



As the clouds gathered (left), there seemed to be an air of expectation among the birds, with Sardinian warblers, greenfinches and goldfinches singing from the stone walls and bushes and a distant quail wetting its lips. A pale-phase booted eagle drifted over against an increasingly dark sky. Before long, the distant thunder transformed into a dramatic electric storm, presaged by a huge movement of swifts and hirundines as lightning forked from the billowing clouds. Time to turn back! But although only a couple of hundred metres from home, it was too late – the torrential rain swept in and in an instant we were soaked, although it did at least feel warm.

After an hour the rain abated a little, and an even smaller group (me and Mike!) decided to explore down the drive. A couple of turtle doves purred on the wires, and we managed a glimpse of one of the local stone-curlews – surprisingly not in the pig field, but underneath the canopy of a holm oak wood, a very odd sight for those used to seeing them on the Breckland plains. And no, it was not just taking shelter: it was here we saw a pair throughout the week, presumably on breeding territory. But this trip too was soon cut short by rain coming down like stair-rods, and as the weather system passed over us, the wind turned to the north, became increasingly blustery and the temperature plummeted.

Before long it was time for dinner, while I returned to the airport to collect Anne and Bill. By 8.30 pm the group was complete and we were able to look forward to the week, and hope (successfully) for more settled weather.

Day 2, 15 May: Son Bou and Torre d'en Gaumes

As day broke, the skies were clearing following more rain overnight, and our pre-breakfast walk was rewarded with hoopoes, spotted flycatchers and stone-curlew along the drive, with a few last vestiges of bird migration in the form of a singing willow warbler and a pair of golden orioles, although the male was only heard. A sumptuous breakfast of local breads, cereals and eggs set us up well for the day ahead which was to be the beach at Son Bou. This is a popular holiday centre in high season with a marsh and dune system saved from the developers by the actions of GOB. Even though our trip was a month later than expected, the town was very quiet as we drifted down to the car park behind the beach. From here our route took us across the sand to well laid-out paths across the dunes, roped and 'boardwalked' to minimise disturbance to fragile plant communities. And the evidence is that this management technique is working, as to either side the dunes were a riot of colour, with bird's-foot-trefoil, purple viper's-bugloss, scabious and a host of other flowers.



Further signs of migration were numerous turtle doves, presumably grounded by the storm, among the pine trees and even picking seeds off the strandlines (above left), and spotted flycatchers were everywhere. Drinking and bathing among the motley mallards at the outflow stream from the marsh there were several Audouin's gulls (above right), showing their blood-red bills to advantage. Now a relatively common sight, these beautiful gulls were once a rare breeding bird – and are still a Mediterranean speciality. Out to sea the local shags were feeding alongside yellow-legged gulls, while Cory's shearwaters drifted past with their smaller and faster Balearic relatives rather more distant. A honey buzzard drifted in off the sea, and continued its northern passage across the island, and the dune scrub was home to several family parties of stonechats. One male was particularly well marked, its pure white rump and very pale belly bearing the hallmarks of the race *variegata*, normally found in Asia Minor. The beach was covered in the remains of Neptune-weed, the 'nun's farts' ranging in size from modest little fartlets to Mother Superiors nearly 10cm in diameter.

The sun was by now increasing in strength, so on our return to the car park we decided to head to the beach café for shade, coffee and a fly-past clouded yellow, and then to take lunch on the picnic table under the pines, among the feeding signs of black rats – cones which had been demolished squirrel-fashion on this squirrel-free island. Despite the proximity to the resort, clearings within the trees were bursting with flowers, with *Bellardia* and yellow bartsia, and a couple of small-flowered tongue-orchids, rather past their best.

Moving round to the back of the marsh, we then set off for a short walk down the track. Before long, a couple of Egyptian vultures performed a fly-past, and we managed good views of woodchat shrike and typically rather less satisfactory ones of zitting cisticola. Mallard, coot and moorhens were busy on the patches of open water, with a little egret stalking the margins. After much searching, a distinctive red leg and blue body was seen moving behind some rushes, a purple gallinule, prized eating of Romans and prized tick of birdwatchers, here at its only regular site on Menorca. Then with a little patience on our part, it moved out into the open, even swam across the pool and gave us the best views I have ever had. Heading back to the bus, insects were coming out in the sunshine including several keeled skimmers and a large number of Mediterranean demoiselles, the metallic green, brown-winged females sitting around waiting for the more active, shiny blue, black-winged males to take an interest. Then, where a rivulet of water crossed the track, we almost tripped over an Algerian hedgehog, so immobile we assumed at first it was dead. But no, it was breathing, but a possible reason for its lethargy became obvious – firmly attached to its rear end were several fully engorged hedgehog ticks.

Back on the road, a flock of about 25 bee eaters flew low overhead but sadly disappeared from view very quickly as we headed to the archaeological site of Torre d'en Gaumes. This is the remains of a settlement dating back to 1300BC, strategically placed on a hill overlooking fields down to the coast allowing panoramic views across the open countryside. The rocky buildings and walls are home to many interesting plants such as pale periwinkle, and *Prasium majus*, and a good place for scanning the skies for raptors – booted eagles of both colour forms were on the menu today. Thekla larks and spotted flycatchers perched prominently on the rocks, as did a singing tawny pipit, and Italian wall lizards basked in the sun, skittering away into cover as they heard our approach.

Back to Matchani Gran for the evening log and dinner. As we were heading to bed, a scops owl was calling in the garden, and eventually came into view in the lights as it tried to work out who its new rival was (me!).

Day 3, 16 May: Tirant and Cap de Cavalleria

The morning dawned clear and bright after heavy overnight rain. All the usual suspects were in place as the pre-breakfast crew dodged the puddles down the lane, with stone-curlews in both the pig field and the wood, and nightingale and golden oriole singing loudly but invisibly from the same group of trees.

The drive to Tirant took us past a small *depuradora*, a water treatment plant near Es Mercadal, with several pools often attractive to waders and wagtails. Today the banks of the pools were nearly empty, with just a common sandpiper and a little ringed plover among the throngs of yellow-legged gulls, although just after we set off again we came upon a large, loose feeding flock of bee-eaters in a roadside field.

A similar lack of waders was also the situation at Tirant. This seasonal wetland had plenty of water, wet grassland and pools after a wet autumn and winter but we had clearly missed the spring passage. Several little egrets and an obliging purple heron were feeding in the shallows, but wetland birds were otherwise restricted to familiar fare – mallard, moorhen and coot. A couple of booted eagles drifted over, with a very high flying Montagu's harrier and over the distant hills, several Egyptian vultures. The air however was filled with bird song – nightingale and Cetti's warblers from the bushes, and the incessant zitting of cisticolas overhead (if this can really be called a song!).

Moving on, we parked overlooking the cove, and were greeted by numerous bee-eaters flying low overhead. A quick scan soon revealed their nesting cliff a couple of hundred metres away over the trees. Around us the scrubby slopes and grassland were in full flower, with cistus, Mediterranean honeysuckle and felted germander all vying for our attention, while the umbels of wild carrot harboured a range of insects, including the distinctive spotty flower chafer *Oxythyrea funesta* and the swollen-thighed beetle *Oedemera nobilis*.

And so on to a very different habitat. The Cap de Cavalleria is a very exposed rocky promontory a few kilometres away, almost like a moonscape in places. The birds were very quiet at the lighthouse in the midday heat, although a couple of blue rock thrushes perched on the rocky outcrops watching us watching them. But the plants were still there, including a few Balearic endemic plant species: wherever one goes, it is stressful, skeletal habitats which harbour the gems. Mauve *Senecio rodriguezii* was nestling in the rocky crevices alongside *Digitalis dubia* just coming into bloom, and the slopes were covered in the prickly cushions of several 'vegetable hedgehogs', although *Launaea cervicornis*, the hedgehog lettuce, was the only one in full flower. This was one of the treats of our later trip, as in the past all we have seen have been non-flowering cushions. The vegetable hedgehogs, or *socarrells*, are a group of unrelated but convergently-evolved plants which grow as spiny cushions, adapted to withstand extreme exposure and intense grazing. Just below the lighthouse, while prospecting the route at lunchtime to ensure it was suitable for those with limited mobility, I came upon one of the most magnificent local endemics, the Balearic dragon arum, in flower (right). Pointing it out to a couple of apparently interested passing English ladies, I was horrified a few minutes later with the group to find it had been picked! I can only hope they got the full benefit of its 'delightful', fly-attracting aroma in due course.



On the way back we stopped at the narrow portion of the peninsula and had a look out to the bay and its attendant Audouin's gulls before walking to the inviting cove to the west, down a track fluttering with small heaths, to (thankfully) several more, larger dragon arums, these having evaded the clutch of the 'ladies'!

An ice-cream stop at the visitor centre and ecomuseum (another benefit of our later visit – it, and the loos, were open) gave us some welcome shade, a pair of passing ravens, and a few new plants including pale viper's-bugloss and the dwarf fan-palm, so abundant elsewhere in the Balearics but surprisingly scarce on Menorca. Heading home, a newly cut hay-field was the feeding ground for seven kestrels, undoubtedly attracted by the displaced insects and small mammals. With flickering flight, more reminiscent of a hobby, and rich colouration, our hopes were raised for lesser kestrels, but on closer investigation it was clear that any suspicions were based on wishful thinking. To ring the changes we took the delightful but slower Kane road back to Mahón, and a peek into the hidden heart of the island, away from the main roads and resorts.

Our evening meal was taken in St Climent at The Casino restaurant, where we were treated to an excellent (if somewhat overwhelming) selection of *tapas* and local food.

Day 4, 17 May: Algendar Gorge, Cala Galdana, Ciutadella and Cala Morell

Although it dawned sunny, there was a distinctly different feel in the air today, with a strong, blustery northerly wind. Most birds were sheltering before breakfast, although a singing tawny pipit overhead was an addition to the usual soundscape. Mike produced a moth which had ventured into his room during the night: with a distinctive pattern and posture, it was not difficult to name it on our return home as a pistachio moth.

The Algendar Gorge was our key destination today. The gorge is probably the best known of Menorca's famous gorges, or *barrancos*, cut deep into the limestone and draining the south side of the island. The wetlands at the mouth of the gorge held little egret and grey heron, and a pause by the start of the woodland path produced singing firecrest, blackcap and orphean warbler. We then progressed up the floor of the gorge along a track lined with lush vegetation; brambles, nettles, huge leaves of Italian lords-and-ladies and sea squill, giant fennel and luxuriant grasses. We soon became immersed in olfactory botany, 'savouring' the scents of stink aster and pitch trefoil. On some rocky outcrops by the track, we found rock samphire (another addition to the foliar scentscape). Surprisingly far inland, these plants may well be relicts from the time the valley floor was tidal before the development of the nearby tourist resort. Some showy stands of yellow bartsia and *Lythrum junceum*, bright yellow mixed with vivid purplish-pink, caught our eyes, while pyramidal orchids and *Verbascum creticum* added to the botanical delights.

Overhead, there were several Egyptian vultures, no doubt from the nesting sites further up the gorge, with alpine swifts, a peregrine and a couple of kestrels. All along the path nightingales filled the air with song, while speckled woods (of the south-western tawny-speckled form) and Mediterranean demoiselles danced amongst the vegetation. But our eyes were drawn downwards again by the sight of three red-eared terrapins basking on a half-submerged log. Then, returning to the van, a fourth example was found, this time right on the path, hiding within its carapace. While interesting to see, these sightings were also rather worrying as this north American species is not native to Europe. It is displacing the native pond terrapin and, as a predator of all sorts of aquatic animals, it may well have significant wider impacts on the ecology of Mediterranean wetlands.

And so to lunch above Cala Galdana, the classic holiday brochure view of the island. The sheltered *mirador* gave us shelter, a sea view, and shags, peregrines and alpine swifts to accompany the picnic, before the cameras came into action to capture the azure intensity of the sea in the cove

Then onward to Ciutadella, the original capital of Menorca until the British moved it to Mahón. This is still the religious capital however and the town houses a fine cathedral amongst ancient streets. This was a brief coffee stop, chance to recharge after the morning's walk and one of very few opportunities for a spot of retail therapy!

With a couple of hours to spare, we then decided to drive out to the far north-west coast, an area we would not otherwise have visited. Nearly ten years since I last went that way, I soon took a wrong turn, but it proved serendipitous, as we came upon a small flock of spotless starlings, a rather rare visitor to the island. Then to Cala Morell: ten years of development has not been kind to this area, and there is clearly more to come with roads and street lights encroaching on the clifftop habitats, not that the blue rock thrushes seemed to mind too much. But a short walk produced another selection of vegetable hedgehogs; some flowering cushions of another endemic, *Limonium minutum*, again something which had not been in flower on my previous visits; and behind the town, swathes of heathland dominated by *Erica multiflora*, liberally studded with the cerise flower spikes of *Gladiolus illyricus*.

And so back to Matchani Gran, our journey taking in a fly-over flock of six cattle egrets, the only ones of the trip. Our arrival home coincided with a deluge of swifts, mostly common but with several pallids, a chance to compare and contrast this difficult species pair. We were joined for our evening meeting by Montse from GOB Menorca, to receive the Honeyguide cheque to help with their conservation work. As she described their successes and

challenges, it became clear that their role is crucial and remarkably diverse, a non-governmental organization encompassing aspects of the work of RSPB, RSPCA, FWAG, the Hawk & Owl Trust and the Marine Stewardship Council in the UK. Sadly, our cheque was for only €231, although it brings our total Honeyguide contribution to GOB over the years to nearly £9,000, and several of the group were moved to enquire about making an additional donation on their return home. And we are still the only tour company which has ever made any donation to GOB Menorca, says Montse.

After dinner – excellent as always – the bat detector was pressed into action, although only common pipistrelles came out to play. And Venus was putting on an excellent show, close to the crescent of the new moon.

Day 5, 18 May: Mahón, Es Grau and Binidali Cove

The pre-breakfast event today was a drive down to our nearest coast at Binidali. Sunny but still breezy, we did much of our birdwatching from the vehicle, with a male blue rock thrush and a total of 20 Audouin's gulls loafing around the rocky clifftop. Both shearwater species were passing out at sea, and a short scamper down the cove produced only Sardinian warblers and spotted flycatchers. By the time we got back, Caty had decided it was now warm enough for us to savour the delights of an *al fresco* breakfast!

On to Mahón, where we were due to catch a boat for a tour of the harbour, some history and a few birds – and fish, as this was a catamaran with windows built into the sides of the two hulls. The wind had abated as we set off and the sun was increasingly strong as we got further out into the harbour. Perfect viewing conditions in fact for the Audouin's and yellow-legged gulls which trailed the boat, and small flocks of shags, several immatures with the clear white underparts so characteristic of the Mediterranean form, which fed in the clear waters. And then in the outer reaches of the inlet it was time for underwater viewing of the Neptune-weed meadows, a plant so familiar washed up along the shore as tideline litter and nun's farts but, from this unique perspective, a living plant providing a habitat for numerous fish species.



An hour later we were back in dock, time for a quick coffee before heading to Es Grau and lunch in the shade of the car park trees (left), before we set off across the marsh of the only nature reserve on Menorca. A pair of black-winged stilts feeding unconcernedly in the shallow water were the only water birds, apart from a few mallards and moorhens. The salt-marsh vegetation contained a number of British species, along with an abundance of rose garlic, in a form bearing more bulbils than flowers, perhaps an adaptation to salt stress which may inhibit the germination of seeds. Heading through the woodland, nightingales were in full flow and one even gave us views as it briefly sang out in the open, while again spotted flycatchers were everywhere. At

the end of the wood is a lovely sandy field leading up to banks of spiny broom, tree spurge and everywhere *Cistus*. Unfortunately the gate was locked unlike on previous trips, but from a distance it was clear that the advancing spring would have prevented us from finding many of the usual masses of orchids, even if we had been able to get in.

A walk back to the bus along the shore of the bay, the low dunes flowering with yellow horned-poppy, sea medick and sea spurge, led us inexorably to a welcome ice-cream in the sea-front café. Then with a little time to spare, we headed back to Binidali, for more Audouin's gulls, our best views of Cory's shearwaters of the trip, and a stunning patch of orange-flowered *Gazania* (albeit a native of South Africa). A fine finish to another super day, rounded off by our second visit to the Casino restaurant.

Day 6, 19 May: Tirant, Fornells, Sa Roca, and Monte Toro

Our pre-breakfast route today took us through the fields towards the airport fence, and produced both tawny pipit and Thekla lark feeding young, a singing woodchat shrike and a pair of red-legged partridges.

Heading back to the north coast, we first paid a return visit to Tirant, where we located another black-winged stilt and a Cleopatra butterfly. But the real treats were reserved for the drive on towards Fornells. After a few hundred metres, a stop to look over a reedy lagoon (nothing different save for a distant dabchick) produced a cloud of swifts low overhead, with several pallids allowing close scrutiny.

Then larger fare, as at least eight booted eagles drifted over, and a final flourish of flying jewels as we passed through a feeding aggregation of at least fifty bee-eaters, fortuitously right by a convenient pull-off from the single-track road. And what a show they put on, wheeling around, sitting and chattering, filling the air with their liquid bubbling, which would rise to a crescendo as each eagle passed by. (Pale-phase booted eagle, below left; bee-eater, below right.)



On then to the point at Fornells: the wind hadn't eased, and the only bird of note was a singing tawny pipit. The plants, landscape and views were spectacular however. *Limonium minutum*, sea heath, sea chamomile and *Helichrysum* adorned the harsh rocks below the Moorish tower, and both yellow and purple broomrapes were found parasitizing their favoured hosts.

Sa Roca is a delightful area of pine and holm oak forest inland, to the north-east of El Toro, Menorca's largest hill. The woodland gave us shelter and shade, a lovely place for lunch under the pine trees. Afterwards, a short walk up a forest track produced a few flowering pompoms of *Cytinus ruber*, a parasitic plant which attacks pink *Cistus* species, here *C. albidus*. This is a plant for which Honeyguide can take considerable credit as we recorded it new to the island at this very spot in 2002. A little more searching then produced another target species – several spikes of violet bird's-nest orchid, some in good flower, among the masses of wild gladioli, a lovely sight with a backdrop of singing nightingales and great tits.

Our return home was via the beautiful but narrow forest roads south of Sa Roca, and thence to the summit of El Toro. Dramatic views over almost the whole of the island and a welcome cup of coffee rounded off a very full day, as booted eagles and ravens played overhead in the strong wind.

Day 7, 20 May: Montgofre Nou and Cap Favàritx

Another clear but breezy dawn. The usual suspects were there to greet the early morning walkers – one of the stone-curlews was seen perched atop a stone wall – while a singing short-toed lark, a kestrel visiting its chicks in a nest in a telegraph pole, and a couple of bright blue racing pigeons (dyed by the local pigeon fanciers) gave added variety.

After breakfast we prepared for sun and set off to Montgofre Nou, leading ultimately to a narrow track consisting of holes with a small amount of surface in between. Speed was therefore somewhat reduced allowing plenty of time for the branches of bushes and stems of grasses to enter the vehicles through open windows on their tactile journey along the paintwork. This track took us alongside fantastic weathered rock faces, with deep holes and overhangs providing a home to kestrels and a sunning spot for raven before ending at the entrance to Montgofre. Having failed to secure permission to go down the private road, we took the Cami de Cavalls, the new public route right around the island coast, which led us alongside the lagoons, salt pans and estuary.

Here at last we were among good numbers of water birds. Numerous black-winged stilts, always bickering, kept to the deeper waters, while little ringed and ringed plovers, redshanks, little stints, greenshank, common sandpiper and dunlin fed and roosted around the pools, all northern migrants apart from the first mentioned. On the open water, there were many coots and mallards, a couple of gadwall and five adult shelduck, including a pair with recently hatched young. Several little egrets stalked around, but they were dwarfed by the great white egret – an increasingly familiar sight here, as in the UK.

Low, scudding clouds producing a little rain had given way to hot sunshine by lunchtime, after which it was time to negotiate the pot-holes once again. But barely a couple of hundred metres down the track, we drew to a halt alongside a purple heron, which was staring, intently into the roadside ditch. We watched as it waited, and eventually struck, coming up with a viperine snake that it attempted to swallow right in front of us. The snake was having none of it though, coiling its body around the heron's bill. Eventually, the heron flew a little way down the track before trying again to claim its meal, before giving up, flapping away and leaving its intended prey apparently unharmed slithering back to safety. (Photo on front cover.)



Then we headed to Cap Favàritx (left) at the extreme north-east of the island and only a short distance from the track to Montgófre. The habitat could not be more different here with lush vegetation slowly giving way to open areas of shale and an almost barren landscape with a few specialised plants being enveloped by the South African Hottentot-fig. The walk out to the end of the point took us past a wonderful geological story, including trace fossils of burrowing marine worms which presumably ended up in that state as a result of some geo-environmental cataclysm.

A final stop as we headed back from the point was just far enough inland for the vegetation to develop largely out of the reach of salt spray, although the salt-pruned *Phillyrea* bushes and vegetable hedgehogs bore testament to the fact that in storm conditions, spray envelops the whole area. And here, in a remarkable example of the recovery powers of nature following the removal of the choking blanket of Hottentot-fig, the vegetable hedgehogs were at their very best, six species growing in a veritable rock garden (left), including two species –



Astragalus balearicus and *Dorycnium fulgurans* – we had not seen in flower previously. This area is renowned for hosting spectacled warblers, a bird which is equally renowned for its extremely skulking habits and ability to disappear in the smallest of bushes. But as we returned to the bus, a sharp rattle stopped us short, and after a couple of fleeting flashes a lovely male finally sat in full view. Only for a few seconds, but that constitutes a good view of spectacled warbler!

Again, we had a little time to spare, so we hoped to explore the tracks to the coast to the east of Fornells. However a locked, gated road, 'no entry' and 'dangerous dogs' signs

left us in no doubt we would not be welcome. So we had to 'make do' with a return to the Tirant bee-eaters, as resplendent as ever, and another ice-cream at the Cavallería ecomuseum, where the girl presented each of us with a fridge magnet (a cow with dangly legs) as a present for brightening up her day!

Back at Matchani Gran, the swifts were again flocking overhead, this time all three species, and an unfamiliar sedge-warbler-like song from deep inside the dense bushes round the swimming pool was eventually resolved (the following morning) as a western olivaceous warbler. The 80th bird of the trip, a very respectable total given that at peak migration times, the holidays here rarely produce more than 90 species. Our final meal gave us chance to reflect upon what had been a wonderful week, and to revisit our personal highlights. Not surprisingly, the bee-eaters, purple heron and booted eagles, dragon arum and vegetable hedgehogs took most of the votes!

Day 8, 21 May: Homeward bound...

Another fine, bright and calm morning and our last chance to take in the sights, sounds and scents of the Mediterranean. We said our farewells, and took our last journey down the drive - still the minibus remained unscathed by the encroaching pines. My one regret is that it was only at the airport that Norman let slip he had had his 89th birthday during our holiday: that would have been some celebration!

The flight left on time and, for those on the left-hand side of the plane with a window, allowed a last look at some of the wonderful places we had experienced. We took off to the north, over Montgófre Nou, turned back over Cap de Cavallería, crossed the island and passed over Son Bou. The plane turned right and tracked along the southern coast of Mallorca, crossed the Spanish coast over the Ebro Delta and its magnificent double spit, and crossed the Pyrenees over Ordesa, with glimpses west to Aisa and Gavarnie. Across Aquitaine to the Biscay coast, and crossing the Channel to the Isle of Wight and home. A panoramic tour of Honeyguide destinations – past, present and future?

BIRDS

Little Grebe	Tirant
Cory's Shearwater	Offshore from Son Bou and Cap Favàritx; closer views from Binidali
Balearic Shearwater	Several passing Son Bou and Binidali
Mediterranean Shag	Small numbers at all coastal sites
Cattle Egret	A group of six near Ciutadella
Little Egret	Small numbers at most wetland sites
Great White Egret	One at Montgofre Nou
Grey Heron	Singles at Cap de Cavallería, Montgofre Nou, Algendar Gorge, Tirant & Mahón
Purple Heron	One seen well at both Tirant and Montgofre Nou
Shelduck	Five adults and a brood of chicks at Montgofre Nou
Gadwall	A pair at Montgofre Nou
Mallard	Son Bou, Tirant, Es Grau and Montgofre Nou – some hybridisation with domestic ducks
Honey Buzzard	One in off the sea at Son Bou
Red Kite	Individuals seen almost every day, though rather less numerous than on previous trips
Egyptian Vulture	Tirant, Son Bou, Algendar Gorge, Cap de Cavallería and Montgofre Nou in groups of up to three
Montagu's Harrier	One high above Tirant
Booted Eagle	Numerous sightings almost every day; dark and pale forms almost equally abundant
Kestrel	Seen every day, breeding at Matchani Gran, Montgofre Nou and Algendar Gorge. A flock of seven hunting over newly mown hay fields near Cap de Cavallería
Peregrine Falcon	Algendar Gorge and Cala Galdana
Red-legged Partridge	Matchani Gran, Sa Roca and Es Mercadal <i>depuradora</i>
Quail	Heard calling in several places, regularly around Matchani Gran
Water Rail	One calling at Son Bou
Moorhen	Son Bou and Tirant
Purple Gallinule	One seen well at Son Bou
Coot	Son Bou, Tirant, Es Grau and Montgofre Nou
Black-winged Stilt	Several at Tirant, two at Es Grau and many at Montgofre Nou
Stone-curlew	Heard around Matchani Gran on most nights; seen most mornings in the pig field and especially the holm oak woodland
Little Ringed Plover	Es Mercadal <i>depuradora</i> and Cap Favàritx; several at Montgofre Nou
Ringed Plover	About seven at Montgofre Nou
Little Stint	Two at Montgofre Nou
Dunlin	One at Montgofre Nou
Redshank	Six at Montgofre Nou
Greenshank	One at Montgofre Nou
Common Sandpiper	Individuals at Es Mercadal <i>depuradora</i> and Montgofre Nou
Audouin's Gull	Seen regularly at most coastal sites; an early morning flock of twenty at Binidali
Yellow-legged Gull	Seen at all coastal sites and frequently inland
Rock Dove	Apparently wild birds at Cap de Cavallería, Algendar Gorge, Cap Favàritx and Montgofre Nou. Numerous feral birds near buildings throughout the island
Wood Pigeon	Single birds and small groups at Matchani Gran and elsewhere inland on most days
Collared Dove	Widespread and plentiful near villages
Turtle Dove	Several singing on territory at Matchani Gran; small groups of grounded migrants at Son Bou and Es Grau
Scops Owl	Heard, occasionally seen, at Matchani Gran on most evenings and at Cala Galdana by day
Common Swift	Seen frequently throughout the island; some notable arrivals
Pallid Swift	Seen regularly in small numbers with moving Common Swifts; a couple of larger arrivals associated with storms
Alpine Swift	Several at Cala Galdana; one over Matchani Gran in large swift movement
Bee-eater	Small groups heard and seen in several locations; a large breeding aggregation near Tirant
Hoopoe	Individuals seen nearly every day, especially at Matchani Gran

Short-toed Lark	Occasional in the fields around Matchani Gran
Thekla Lark	Individuals seen most days, at Matchani Gran and elsewhere
Swallow	Seen every day, with some notable movements in advance of rain
House Martin	Seen most days, with some significant weather-related movements
Tawny Pipit	Territorial birds noted most days in several places
Yellow Wagtail	Fly-over birds at Montgofre Nou and Son Bou not racially identifiable
Robin	One at Matchani Gran
Nightingale	Heard frequently throughout the week
Whinchat	One at Es Mercadal <i>depuradora</i>
Stonechat	Pairs or individuals seen on several days; one male feeding young at Son Bou had the appearance of the distinctive <i>variegata</i> race
Blue Rock Thrush	Cap de Cavalleria, Cala Morell and Binidali
Blackbird	Seen frequently at Matchani Gran, occasionally elsewhere inland
Cetti's Warbler	Frequently heard in wet and scrubby places
Zitting Cisticola	Frequent and widespread, though small numbers apart from at Tirant
Western Olivaceous Warbler	One singing in the garden of Matchani Gran
Blackcap	Algendar Gorge and Matchani Gran
Orphean Warbler	Male seen and hear on and off at Matchani Gran; singing in Algendar Gorge
Sardinian Warbler	Widespread and numerous
Spectacled Warbler	Male at Cap Favàritx
Willow Warbler	One at Matchani Gran
Common Chiffchaff	Singing in Algendar Gorge
Firecrest	Heard in Algendar Gorge and Sa Roca
Spotted Flycatcher	Numerous wherever there were trees
Great Tit	Seen or heard most days
Spotless Starling	A small flock just outside Ciutadella
Golden Oriole	Both male and female seen and heard several mornings at Matchani Gran
Woodchat Shrike	Pair at Matchani Gran and one at Son Bou, with several seen while travelling; all that were seen well were of the Balearic form
Raven	Occasional throughout the island
House Sparrow	Near houses all over the island
Chaffinch	Singing birds at Matchani Gran, Sa Roca and Algendar Gorge
Greenfinch	Widespread and abundant
Goldfinch	Widespread and abundant
Linnet	Widespread though not numerous
Corn Bunting	Seen and heard all over the island.

TOTAL: 80 species

Left – Sardinian warbler
Below – Thekla lark
Right – Stonechat, *variegata* race



OTHER ANIMALS

Butterflies

Large White	Speckled Wood
Small White	(south-western form) (right)
Clouded Yellow	Small Heath
Cleopatra	Small Copper
Swallowtail	Holly Blue
Painted Lady	Common Blue
Meadow Brown	Long-tailed Blue
	Geranium Bronze



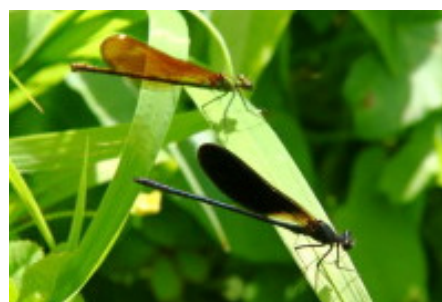
Moths

Pine Processionary-moth - Larvae and larval webs
 Snout
 Rush Veneer
 Pistachio Moth *Eutelia adalatrix* (right)



Odonata

Common Darter – Es Grau, Montgofre Nou
 Lesser Emperor – Montgofre Nou
 Keeled Skimmer – Es Grau, Montgofre Nou, Algendar Gorge
 Blue tailed Damselfly – Es Grau, Montgofre Nou
 Mediterranean Demoiselle (right) - Son Bou, Algendar Gorge



Other invertebrates

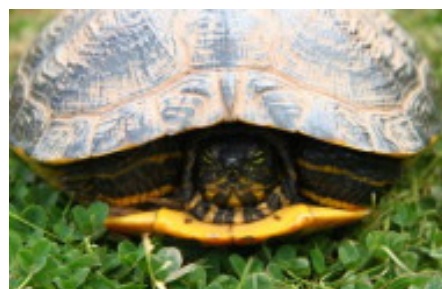
Field Cricket <i>Gryllus campestris</i>	Flower beetle <i>Oedemera nobilis</i>
Mole-cricket <i>Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa</i>	Churchyard Beetle <i>Blaps mucronata</i>
Blue-winged Grasshopper <i>Oedipoda coerulescens</i>	7-spot Ladybird <i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>
Violet Carpenter-bee <i>Xylocopa violacea</i>	Flower Chafer <i>Oxythyrea funesta</i>
Tawny Mining Bee <i>Andrena fulva</i>	Hedgehog Tick <i>Ixodes hexagonus</i>
Fire Bug <i>Pyrrhocoris apterus</i>	Deer Tick <i>Ixodes ricinus</i>
Soldier Beetle <i>Rhagonycha fulva</i>	Banded Snail <i>Cepaea nemoralis</i>

Amphibians

Iberian Water Frog	Algendar Gorge
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Reptiles

Italian Wall Lizard
 Moorish Gecko – Montgofre Nou
 Viperine Snake – Montgofre Nou
 Hermann's Tortoise - Matchani Gran – rather more difficult to find than in previous years, perhaps related to severe winter weather
 Red-eared Terrapin (right) – Algendar Gorge



Mammals

Algerian Hedgehog (right)	One at Son Bou and road casualties
Rabbit	Matchani Gran
Black Rat	Eaten pine cones
Pine Marten	Droppings at Montgofre Nou
European Free-tailed Bat	Matchani Gran
Common Pipistrelle	Matchani Gran
Daubenton's Bat	Matchani Gran



PLANTS

In the lists that follow, the localities are identified by the following codes:

MG	Matchani Gran	MN	Montgofre Nou
SB	Son Bou	CF	Cap Favàritx
TG	Torre d'en Gaumes	F	Fornells
EM	Es Mercadal <i>Depuradora</i>	SR	Sa Roca
T	Tirant	AG	Algendar Gorge/Cala Galdana
CC	Cap de Cavallería	CM	Cala Morell
MT	Monte Toro	M	Mahón
EG	s'Albufera Es Grau	B	Binidali

For many of the more widespread species, no attempt has been made to list all the localities. Indeed, in many cases, no localities at all are given as the species was ubiquitous in the right habitats. I have tried to be as comprehensive as possible in the species listings, although some are more complete than others. For example, the plant list has ignored many species not in flower, together with difficult groups such as grasses. English names are given only where there is one used in the books, or one can justifiably be coined.

After the scientific name, an indication is given for those species or forms considered to be endemic to the region ie to be found in the wild there and only there. The scale of the endemism is taken from the *Flowers of Menorca* (GOB):

- EM** – endemic to Menorca
- EG** – endemic to Menorca and Mallorca
- EB** – endemic to the Balearic Islands
- ET** – endemic to the western Mediterranean island area

LICHENS

<i>Cladonia foliacea</i>		MG	MN
<i>Usnea</i> sp.		EG	SR
<i>Xanthoria parietina</i>	sunburst lichen		

FERNS AND ALLIES

<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	maidenhair fern	AG
<i>Equisetum ramosissimum</i>		SB
<i>E. telmateia</i>	great horsetail	AG
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	bracken	SR

CONIFERS AND ALLIES

<i>Ephedra fragilis</i>	joint-pine	EG	CF
<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i>	Phoenician juniper	SB	EG
<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Aleppo pine		
<i>P. pinea</i>	stone pine	B	

FLOWERING PLANTS

Agavaceae		
<i>Agave americana</i>	century plant	
Aizoaceae		
<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Hottentot-fig	CF B
In previous years this was more widespread, so eradication attempts seem to be succeeding.		
<i>Disphyma crassifolium</i>		CM

<i>Mesembryanthemum nodiflorum</i>		CM
Amaryllidaceae		
<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	sand daffodil	SB CC EG CF
Anacardiaceae		
<i>Pistachia lentiscus</i>	lentisc	
<i>P. terebinthus</i>	turpentine tree	SB
Apiaceae		
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	rock samphire	AG B
<i>Daucus carota</i>	wild carrot	
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	field eryngo	MG EG
<i>E. maritimum</i>	sea-holly	SB EG
<i>Ferula communis</i>	giant fennel	
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	fennel	
<i>Kundmannia sicula</i>		MG T
<i>Smyrniolum olusatrum</i>	alexanders	
Apocynaceae		
<i>Vinca difformis</i>	pale periwinkle	TG
Araceae		
<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	friar's-cowl	AG
<i>Arum italicum</i>	Italian lords-and-ladies	AG CC SB
<i>Dracunculus muscivorus (ET)</i>	Balearic dragon arum	CC
<i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i>		AG
Araliaceae		
<i>Hedera helix</i>	ivy	AG
Asclepiadaceae		
<i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i>		
ssp. <i>intermedium</i>	swallow-wort	CC
Asteraceae		
<i>Anthemis maritima</i>	sea chamomile	F CM
<i>Artemisia coerulescens</i>		EG
<i>A. gallica</i>		CM CF
<i>Asteriscus aquaticus</i>		
<i>A. maritimus</i>		M
<i>Bellis annua</i>	annual daisy	MG
<i>B. sylvestris</i>		AG
<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	field marigold	
<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>	slender thistle	MG
<i>Carlina corymbosa</i>		CC
<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i>	crown daisy	
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	chicory	TG
<i>Crepis vesicaria</i>	beaked hawk's-beard	
<i>Evax pygmaea</i>		MG CC CF
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>		
<i>Gaxania rigens</i>		B
<i>Helichrysum stoechas</i>		CC CF CM B
<i>Hyoseris radiata</i>		
<i>H. scabra</i>		MG
<i>Hypochaeris achyrophorus</i>		
<i>Inula crithmoides</i>	golden-samphire	EG SB
<i>I. viscosa</i>	stink aster	AG T SR
<i>Launaea cervicornis (EG)</i>	hedgehog lettuce	CC CF CM
<i>Notobasis syriaca</i>		MG
<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>		MG
<i>Phagnalon saxatile</i>		EG
<i>P. rupestre</i>		
<i>Reichardia tingitana</i>		
<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>		
var. <i>magonica (EM)</i>	lavender-cotton	CC CF
<i>Senecio rodriguezii (EG)</i>		CC CF CM

<i>Silybum marianum</i>	milk-thistle	
<i>Sonchus tenerrimus</i>		MG SB
<i>Urospermum dalechampii</i>		MG T
Boraginaceae		
<i>Borago officinalis</i>	borage	
<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	blue hound's-tongue	AG SB
<i>Echium italicum</i>	pale viper's-bugloss	AG CC
<i>E. parviflorum</i>	small-flowered bugloss	MG
<i>E. plantagineum</i>	purple viper's-bugloss	MG SB CC
Brassicaceae		
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	sea-rocket	SB EG
<i>Cardaria draba</i>	hoary cress	AG
<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	sweet alison	MG SB EG CC
<i>Matthiola incana</i>	hoary stock	AG
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	hedge mustard	
Cactaceae		
<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i>	prickly-pear	MG EG
Caprifoliaceae		
<i>Lonicera implexa</i>		AG EG B T
Caryophyllaceae		
<i>Silene gallica</i>	small-flowered catchfly	MG
<i>S. secundiflora</i>		CF CM
<i>S. sedoides</i>		F CF CM
<i>S. vulgaris</i>	bladder campion	
<i>Spergularia rubra</i>	sand spurrey	EG
Chenopodiaceae		
<i>Arthrocnemum macrostachyum</i>		EG MN T
<i>Atriplex portulacoides</i>	sea-purslane	EG MN
<i>Beta vulgaris</i> ssp. <i>maritima</i>	sea beet	SB
<i>Salicornia ramosissima</i>	glasswort	EG MN
<i>Sarcocornia fruticosa</i>	shrubby glasswort	EG MN CF CM
Cistaceae		
<i>Cistus albidus</i>	grey-leaved cistus	EG SR AG MN T
<i>C. monspeliensis</i>	narrow-leaved cistus	EG AG
<i>C. salvifolius</i>	sage-leaved cistus	EG MN NT SR
Convolvulaceae		
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	hedge bindweed	SB
<i>C. soldanella</i>	sea bindweed	EG
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	mallow-leaved bindweed	
<i>C. arvensis</i>	field bindweed	
Crassulaceae		
<i>Sedum rubens</i>		CF
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	navelwort	MG TG AG
Cyperaceae		
<i>Carex divisa</i>	divided sedge	MN
<i>C. extensa</i>	long-bracted sedge	AG
<i>C. flacca</i>	glaucous sedge	SR
<i>C. otrubae</i>	false fox sedge	AG
<i>Cyperus rotundus</i>		SB
<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	common spike-rush	T
<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>	black bog-rush	CC EG CM
<i>Scirpus holoschoenus</i>	round-headed club-rush EG	
<i>S. maritimus</i>	sea club-rush	T MN EG
Dioscoreaceae		
<i>Tamus communis</i>	black bryony	AG
Dipsacaceae		
<i>Scabiosa atropurpurea</i>		SB EG

Ericaceae		
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	strawberry-tree	SR
<i>Erica arborea</i>	tree-heath	SR
<i>E. multiflora</i>		CM
Euphorbiaceae		
<i>Euphorbia dendroides</i>	tree spurge	EG CF
<i>E. paralias</i>	sea spurge	SB EG
<i>E. pithyusa</i>		CC F
<i>E. terracina</i>		CF CM
Fabaceae		
<i>Anthyllis hystrix (EM)</i>		CC
<i>Astragalus balearicus (EG)</i>	hedgehog milk-vetch	CM CF
<i>Calicotome spinosa</i>	spiny broom	
<i>Coronilla juncea</i>		SR AG
<i>Dorycnium fulgurans (EG)</i>		CF
<i>D. hirsutum</i>		MN SR
<i>D. pentaphyllum</i>		MN SR
<i>Hedysarum coronarium</i>	Italian sainfoin	
<i>Lotus cytisoides</i>		
<i>L. ornithopodioides</i>		AG MN
<i>L. tetraphyllum (EG)</i>		CC
<i>Medicago arborea</i>	tree medick	B
<i>M. littoralis</i>		SB
<i>M. marina</i>	sea medick	SB EG
<i>Melilotus sulcata</i>		AG
<i>Ononis reclinata</i>	small rest-harrow	MN
<i>Psoralea bituminosa</i>	pitch trefoil	EG AG
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish broom	MN
<i>Trifolium angustifolium</i>		CC
<i>T. campestre</i>	hop trefoil	EG
<i>T. lappaceum</i>		CC
<i>T. nigrescens</i>		
<i>T. scabrum</i>	rough clover	MG
<i>T. resupinatum</i>	reversed clover	SB
<i>T. stellatum</i>	starry clover	
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	common vetch	
Fagaceae		
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	holm oak	MG EG MN AG
Frankeniaceae		
<i>Frankenia hirsuta</i>	hairy sea-heath	F CC CF
<i>F. laevis</i>	sea-heath	CF CM
Fumariaceae		
<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	ramping fumitory	SB
Gentianaceae		
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	yellow-wort	EG SR SB
<i>Centaurium erythraea</i>	common century	CF
Geraniaceae		
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	common stork's-bill	CC
<i>E. malacoides</i>	mallow-leaved stork's-bill	
<i>E. moschatum</i>	musk stork's-bill	SB
<i>Geranium columbinum</i>	long-stalked crane's-bill	AG
<i>G. dissectum</i>	cut-leaved crane's-bill	
<i>G. molle</i>	dove's-foot crane's-bill	
<i>G. purpureum</i>	little-robin	MG AG
<i>G. rotundifolium</i>	round-leaved crane's-bill	
Iridaceae		
<i>Gladiolus illyricus</i>	wild gladiolus	SR MN EG CM
<i>G. italicus</i>		SB MG
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	yellow flag	SB

Juncaceae		
<i>Juncus acutus</i>	sharp rush	T EG MN SB
<i>J. maritimus</i>	sea rush	EG MN CF
Lamiaceae		
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	water mint	AG
<i>Prasium majus</i>		MG TG AG
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	rosemary	SR
<i>R. officinalis</i> var. <i>palaui</i> (EG)		CC
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	meadow clary	
<i>Sideritis romana</i>		MG
<i>Stachys ocymastrum</i>		CC AG
<i>Teucrium capitatum</i>		T CC
<i>T. subspinosum</i> (EG)	hedgehog germander	CC CF
Liliaceae		
<i>Allium ampeloprasum</i>	wild leek	B SB
<i>A. polyanthum</i>		MN
<i>A. roseum</i>	rose garlic	
<i>A. subhirsutum</i>		EG
<i>A. subvillosum</i>		MG B
<i>A. triquetrum</i>	three-cornered leek	EG
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>		
<i>A. albus</i>		
<i>A. horridus</i>		MG SB F CM
<i>Asphodelus aestivus</i>	white asphodel	
<i>A. fistulosus</i>	hollow-stemmed asphodel	
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	tassel hyacinth	
<i>Ornithogalum arabicum</i>	Arabian star-of-Bethlehem	MG
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	butcher's-broom	SB EG MN
<i>Urginea maritima</i>	sea squill	MG EG AG CC
Linaceae		
<i>Linum bienne</i>		MN
<i>L. strictum</i>		CC
<i>L. trigynum</i>		EG
Lythraceae		
<i>Lythrum junceum</i>		AG
Malvaceae		
<i>Lavatera arborea</i>	tree mallow	AG
<i>L. cretica</i>	smaller tree-mallow	SB
<i>Malva neglecta</i>	dwarf mallow	
<i>M. sylvestris</i>	common mallow	
Moraceae		
<i>Ficus carica</i>	fig	
Myoporaceae		
<i>Myoporum laetum</i>		MG[planted]
Oleaceae		
<i>Phillyrea angustifolia</i>		EG SR
<i>P. latifolia</i>		EG T MN
<i>P. latifolia</i> var. <i>rodriguezii</i> (EM)		CF CM
<i>Olea europaea</i>	olive	
Orobanchaceae		
<i>Orobanche clausonis</i>		F CM
<i>O. loricata</i>		F
<i>O. sanguinea</i>		CM
<i>O. ramosa</i>	branched broomrape	MG SB
Orchidaceae		
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	pyramidal orchid	AG
<i>Limodorum abortivum</i>	violet bird's-nest orchid	SR
<i>Serapias parviflora</i>	small-flowered tongue-orchid	MG EG

Oxalidaceae		
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda buttercup	
Palmaceae		
<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	dwarf fan-palm	CC
Papaveraceae		
<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	yellow horned-poppy	EG CF
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	common poppy	
Phytolaccaceae		
<i>Phytolacca arborea</i>	ombu	MG(planted)
Plantaginaceae		
<i>Plantago bellardii</i>		MG
<i>P. coronopus</i>	buck's-horn plantain	
<i>P. crassifolia</i>		SB EG
<i>P. lagopus</i>		
<i>P. lanceolata</i>	ribwort plantain	
<i>P. major</i>	great plantain	SB
Plumbaginaceae		
<i>Limonium echioides</i>		CC CF CM
<i>L. minutum (EB)</i>		CC CF CM
Poaceae		
<i>Aegilops geniculata</i>		MG
<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	marram grass	SB EG
<i>Ampelodesmus mauritanicus</i>		MN CC
<i>Arundo donax</i>	giant reed	AG
<i>Briza maxima</i>	large quaking-grass	MG EG
<i>Cynosurus echinatus</i>		EG
<i>Elymus farctus</i>	sea couch-grass	SB EG
<i>Hordeum marinum</i>	sea barley	MN
<i>H. murinum</i>	wall barley	
<i>Hyparrhenia hirta</i>		
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	hare's-foot grass	
<i>Phalaris aquatica</i>		T
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	common reed	SB
<i>Polypogon monspeliensis</i>	annual beard-grass	MN
<i>Vulpia fasciculata</i>	dune fescue	EG
Polygonaceae		
<i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i>		
Posidoniaceae		
<i>Posidonia oceanica</i>	Neptune-weed	
Primulaceae		
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	scarlet pimpernel (red and blue varieties)	
<i>Coris monspeliensis</i>		B
Punicaceae		
<i>Punica granatum</i>	pomegranate	AG
Rafflesiaceae		
<i>Cytinus ruber</i>		SR
Ranunculaceae		
<i>Clematis cirrhosa</i>	maiden's-bower	MG TG AG
<i>Ranunculus aquatilis</i>	common water-crowfoot	SB T
<i>R. macrophyllus</i>		MN
<i>R. sceleratus</i>	celery-leaved buttercup	AG
Resedaceae		
<i>Reseda alba</i>	white mignonette	
Rhamnaceae		
<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	Mediterranean buckthorn	AG
Rosaceae		
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	blackthorn	
<i>Rosa sempervirens</i>		EG

<i>Rubus ulmifolius</i>	bramble	
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	salad burnet	T AG
Rubiaceae		
<i>Crucianella maritima</i>		SB
<i>Galium aparine</i>	cleavers	
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	wild madder	
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	field madder	
Rutaceae		
<i>Ruta chalepensis</i>		MG
Salicaceae		
<i>Populus alba</i>	white poplar	AG
Scrophulariaceae		
<i>Bellardia trixago</i>		
<i>Digitalis dubia</i> (EG)		CC
<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	yellow bartsia	SB AG
<i>Verbascum creticum</i>		AG
<i>V. sinuatum</i>		
Smilacaceae		
<i>Smilax aspera</i>		MG MN
<i>S. aspera</i> var. <i>balearica</i> (EG)		CC
Solanaceae		
<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	black nightshade	SR
Tamaricaceae		
<i>Tamarix africana</i>		SB
<i>T. boveana</i>		SB AG
<i>T. gallica</i>	tamarisk	EG
Thymelaeaceae		
<i>Thymelaea hirsuta</i>		B
Typhaceae		
<i>Typha angustifolia</i>	lesser reedmace	SB EM
<i>T. latifolia</i>	greater reedmace	SB
Urticaceae		
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	pellitory-of-the-wall	
<i>Urtica membranacea</i>		
Valerianaceae		
<i>Centranthus calcitrapae</i>		MG SB AG



Above left - *Launaea cervicornis* (hedgehog lettuce), endemic to Menorca and Majorca
 Above right - *Limonium minutum*, Balearic endemic



GRUP BALEAR
D'ORNITOLOGIA I
DEFENSA DE LA
NATURALESA

El GOB promou la
defensa dels valors
ambientals i l'equilibri
entre les activitats
humanes i la
conservació de la
naturalesa

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Dear colleagues,

We would like to thank you for your generous donation, **231 Euros**, to GOB Menorca. We are extremely grateful for the effort you did and we hope you felt welcomed to Menorca during your trip here.

As an environmental NGO we do believe that actions as yours have multiple benefits for the environment. Firstly, we will be able to go on working on nature's conservation, and moreover, we feel that people like yourselves will also contribute the environmental awareness to other collectives.

GOB Menorca is running several projects related to nature's protection and environmental awareness that your generous donation may contribute to.

□□ Study and protection of wild fauna and flora, especially endangered species: the Centre for the recovery of injured wild animals, a reserve of tortoises that have been in captivity, campaigns against use of poisons and furtive hunters, Vivarium of autochthonous plants...

□□ Defence of natural areas from destructive activities: proposal of alternatives for the urbanistic planification, detection and reporting of illegal building operations, publication of the problems and possible solutions related to natural landscapes, regeneration of degraded zones and promotion of Marine Reserves...

□□ Popularization of the environment: conferences, meetings, exhibitions, excursions, edition of posters, brochures and reports, edition of books, education on environment for children and adults, Nature Centre...

Thanks again for your great contribution; we hope to see you soon in Menorca.
Best regards;

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