

Tour Report

Crete – Crete's Spring Flowers & Birds

5 - 12 April 2022

Narcissus tazetta - Spili



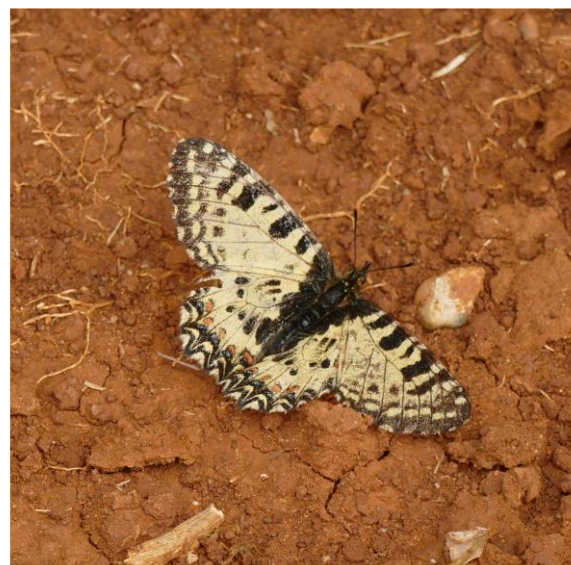
Tulipa bakeri -Spili



Tawny pipit - Aposelemis marsh



Cretan festoon - Souda bay



Compiled by Barry Embling

Day 1: Arrive Chania, Agias Lake

Tuesday 5 April 2022

Weather: Overcast with a cool north breeze, 20°C

The afternoon flight arrived on time and we successfully met in the airport and we transferred to our minibus, (then a different minibus!), and proceeded to Alexis Hotel that delighted us all by its wonderful views looking out over the sea. A cup of tea and some botanising outside the hotel led to a hummingbird hawkmoth feeding on Viper's bugloss and we saw a broomrape *Phelipanche* (no common name - that we later saw elsewhere and didn't work out what the host was), and we all had great views of a circling sparrowhawk. A short drive to Agia Lake was taken before dinner and some gentle birdwatching was a suitable activity after a long day of travel for all. Here we saw a range of waterbirds, including female ferruginous duck, pochard, gadwall and shoveler. A marsh harrier was seen, as were both terrapins, the native stripe-necked and introduced red-eared. Plants included our first *serapias* identification challenge and a tassel hyacinth.

Day 2: Akrotiri Peninsula

Wednesday 6 April 2022

Weather: Sunny all day with some light cloud, 21°C

Our first destination was Venizelos Graves looking for migrants. Although quiet for birds with no migrants, there were plenty of cats! Good views over Chania were had and we caught up with Italian sparrow and a few exotic plants and trees; holly blue and speckled wood were seen. Next, we proceeded to Stavros and the nearby Tersanas Pond. Birds again perhaps were rather disappointing, with only a few sand martins amongst larger numbers of barn swallows. We had good views of Sardinian warbler and many tree pipits were passing over head; a bee-eater was heard, no doubt quite high up on its migration. Moving around to some agricultural land, we saw a swallowtail egg-laying on a giant fennel and later a brown argus. More tree pipits were flushed from the field and a pair of crested lark were seen. We were delighted by a whinchat that sat on the wire as we returned to the minibus. We had all been botanising with Janet working through the tricky *serapias* orchids.

Our lunchtime destination was to be Moni Triaga, and under the shade of a blue gum we enjoyed the warm temperatures and passing serins. Travelling on through some good maquis habitat we arrived at Moni Gouverneto, where we saw many exotic trees and shrubs, red admiral, more serins, joined by linnets, turkeys and another whinchat. Beyond the monastery we descended into some beautiful coastal garrigue and encountered four-spotted orchid, sparse-flowered orchid and then incredibly and briefly saw a spectacular male pallid harrier, then on the way back had great views of our first black-eared wheatear. Back at the car park we saw a tame chukar, and whilst looking at the that, the pallid harrier flew past again and was now seen by all! As if the harrier could possibly be bettered, we went on to see two *aquila* eagles, that initially were thought to be steppe eagles, but later were identified as Eastern imperial eagles. We ended the day having a most welcome beer on the way back to the hotel.

Day 3: Agia Lake, Botanical Gardens of Crete, Omalos Plateau

Thursday 7 April 2022

Weather: Sunny all day with some light cloud, 21°C

Our arrival at Agia Lake was greeted by a small flock of glossy ibis flying around, that eventually moved off and didn't settle. This initial impression of birds on migration was backed-up by hearing and briefly seeing a pair of hawfinch in the tops of trees, corn buntings passing flying north and a quite mesmerising flock of four purple herons slowly and cautiously descending, until they eventually settled into the reedbed on the other

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side of the lake. A squacco heron was seen resting inconspicuously, eventually seen by all. Hirundines and swifts were plentiful for a short while, including a spectacular group of Alpine swift gracefully drinking from the lake; a wonderful start to the day.

Our next destination was the Botanical Gardens of Crete. Whilst not brimming with birds and native wildlife, the botanical collection was interesting with much labelling and interesting interpretation explaining plant uses etc., and there were many stunning exotic species on display, and many in flower in a quite beautiful valley-side setting.

From here we proceed up hill to the Omalas Plateau, where we stopped at various interesting looking places. We saw the unusual *Daphne sericea* in a small arid cultivated valley where we also connected with our first woodchat shrike, Eastern black-eared wheatear and a couple of whitethroats. Later we saw many griffon vultures and eventually saw a distant bearded vulture. Northern wheatears seemed to have just arrived, as half a dozen males were all feeding together in a field. On our arrival at a breezy Samaria Gorge, we were all a bit disappointed at the taverna not being open! Passing though, griffons and some crag martins were observed and we took the group photo against the back drop of snow-capped mountain-scene of the gorge. Our last stop of the day as we descended back into the plateau was some of the flooded areas by the reservoir, where we had good views of green toads mating, with accompanying woodlarks.

Day 4: Armeni Minoan Cemetery, Kotsiphos Gorge, Plakias Beach, Moni Preveli, Turkish Bridge, Kourtalitiko Gorge, Spili Plateau

Friday 8 April 2022

Weather: Sunny all day, 23°C

Our first stop was the enchanting site that is the Armeni Late Minoan Cemetery, with its open orchard-like woodland of vallon oak, where many observed its huge acorns and coarsely textured cups. Orchids abounded, with the first of many being the impressive giant orchid. Other plants seen included many more orchid species, including sawfly and one of the woodcock orchids; the yellow draba and butcher's broom were also encountered for the first time. The tombs themselves were variable in their size and the walls had marks made by bronze hand tools – astounding to think these had been made over 3,000 years ago; a truly wonderful place to spend some time on this perfect sunny morning.

We continued inland to the impressive Kotsiphos Gorge, where we had a wonderful walk ingesting many new plant species, including the casmophyte, *linium arboretum*. Another arum, the curious Friar's cowl was seen for the first time, showing its strange striped tubular spathe. Cleopatra and Cretan festoon were seen and skilfully captured by our group photographer. After picking up two of the group we proceeded to a relatively built-up Plakias beach for our lunch. Our next stop was Moni Preveli, in its beautiful and remote setting with its bizarre menagerie that included Canada geese, emus and llamas. The church and a huge Turkish pine and interesting architecture were enjoyed highlights, though the monks were cleaning the toilets, thus preventing us using these facilities was a terrible disappointment as that was a key reason we were there!

Driving alongside the Megalopotamos Valley, we reached the beautiful Turkish bridge where only one of the group saw a hoopoe. We proceeded further inland and the wide Kourtalitiko Gorge, with many griffon vultures, crag martins, Alpine swifts and a pair of Bonelli's eagle, the latter watched for a long period, gracefully interacting with each other on what was almost certainly a nest site. Jackdaws and ravens were plentiful and made for a very bird-filled blue sky over a spectacular and wide gorge setting.

Spili Plateau was reached with a couple of hours to spare, and on reaching what the botanist's call 'Spili bumps' we immediately were into lots of orchids by the minibus. Apart from being confused by some huge variability and hybrids we were able to identify milk orchid, Bory's orchid, few-flowered orchid, a few kinds of *ophris* and the beautiful pale pink Cretan tulip was at its prime and giving a fabulous display. Our last stop of the day was to look at a patch of *narcissus tazetta* along a trackside. Corn buntings were singing their

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jingling songs the whole time we were there, creating atmosphere in what felt like an ancient unspoilt landscape that made a wonderful finale to a very full day, where we inevitably were rather late back for dinner.

Day 5: Agias Lake and Irimi Gorge

Saturday 9 April 2022

Weather: Sunny all day, later with cloud in the mountain, 21°C

After the last couple of hectic days, a more relaxed day was required by all, though we did start early with a visit to Agia Lake again, with the minibus nearly driving itself. Our arrival was met by a beautiful low sun that slightly hindered viewing but was as usual made up for by so many birds. Sand martins abounded with swallows and our first motionless night heron in sub-adult plumage. Reed and sedge warblers were seen, and we were all delighted by a well seen wood warbler. Tree sparrows were later encountered, and one of the group saw a hoopoe. We returned to our hotel for our well-earned breakfast.

One hour drive away was the Irimi Gorge, our next destination. All the gorges were quite different, and we all enjoyed this one in particular as there was no road access and was full of spectacular trees, both Oriental planes following the river bed and Turkish pines and cypresses on the slopes. Wildflowers abounded with much botanising done. The plane trees had been pollarded some time ago and were gnarled and swollen with hollows and exposed roots dipping into the clear stream. The pines were pollinating and creating a yellowish mist as we looked down the gorge.

On our way back we stopped at a village taverna where one of the group treated us to drinks and we enjoyed the atmosphere of this remote location with local folk coming and going. For a change we had a sensible finishing time and an hour to relax before doing our checklist and eating our last huge evening meal at the Alexi's Hotel.

Day 6: Moronis rivermouth, Commonwealth Memorial Cemetery, Souda Bay, Geogioupolis river, Knossos

Sunday 10 April 2022

Weather: Sunny all day, later with cloud in the mountain, 21°C

A travel day due east and we headed first of all to Moronis River mouth just outside Chania. Our first birds were squacco heron and common sandpiper. Later a wonderful greenshank flew down and alighted opposite us before rapidly disappearing, emitting its characteristic 'tu-tu-tu' call and was nicely captured on camera by one of the group. Some new plants were identified that included Cretan mallow and samphire. A walk along the beach allowed two of the group to search for animals and indulge themselves in their favourite littoral-zone habit. A quick drive to the Souda Commonwealth Graves memorial was sobering and a chance to better understand what happened to the Allied troops in Crete during WW2.

Our next stop was Geogioupolis with its reed and tree-fringed river mouth. Parking by the national highway, we overlooked this wetland in perfect light and saw garganey, stripe-necked terrapin, and beautiful clear spring fed water. A cuppa and a break in the town itself was relaxing by the quiet town square.

We moved on further east to Knossos, leaving us with a couple of hours to explore this most famous of archaeological sites. As is often the way with nature lovers, our interest was taken by the wildlife rather than the ruins themselves. A calling hoopoe was tantalising, but due to the restricted access we couldn't investigate. A passing peregrine was watched by some of us, as many other tourists passed us curious as to what we were looking at! The ruins themselves, whilst fascinating, were excavated and parts of it re-built by Sir Arthur Evans – the re-building aspect seemed confusing to most of us.

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From here we made the short drive to our hotel, the Villa Mare, where we eventually checked in via our phones and old-style form-filling out of doors, thus experiencing more varied Greek Covid prevention measures. After settling in, we had a pleasant meal in new surroundings with far more manageable portions than the previous hotel.

Day 7: Selenari Gorge, Maquis by hotel, Aposelemis river, Krasi

Monday 11 April 2022

Weather: Sunny all day, later with cloud in the mountain, 21°C

A trip to the nearby Selenari Gorge before breakfast was planned as a way of seeing the griffon vultures leave the cliffs to start their day. Unfortunately, we hadn't bargained for near gale force winds and it being very cold indeed. However, we braved the weather for a while and returned for breakfast.

After some exploring of the wonderful maquis by our hotel, our next stop was Aposelemis river and salt marsh. A walk along the river produced views of stripe-necked turtle and we heard our first great reed warbler singing deep in the bamboo-like reeds. Doubling back along the river we took the minibus around to the saltmarsh and seashore edge. Here we had lunch and met a Dutchman who was quite shocked at how much good habitat had been filled-in since his last visit, we were all so sad to hear about this. In the limited habitat remaining, we saw wood sandpipers, a Temminck's stint, greenshank and a nice group of active ruff. Small brown birds suddenly came to the fore, as resident crested larks were joined by a tawny pipit, a pair of greater short-toed larks, a red-throated pipit, and yellow wagtails. Out at sea we could see Scopoli's shearwaters banking and rising briefly above the horizon and also a gull-billed tern made an appearance that we all eventually saw.

Our last stop of the day was the hill village of Krasi, the home of the largest tree on Crete, an Oriental plane. Arriving in the cool air in the village square we spotted not one but two plane trees by the water fountains, with the larger of the two being rumoured to be over 2,400 years old. This was our last stop of the day and indeed our tour as we returned to pack and reflect on our enjoyable week's wildlife watching in near perfect weather before had dinner together for the last time.

Day 8: Travel to Chania airport

Tuesday 12 April 2022

Weather: Sunny all day, later with cloud in the mountain, 21°C

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Checklist



	Common Name	Scientific Name	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
	BIRDS	<i>AVES</i>							
1	Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>		✓					
2	Northern shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	✓		✓				
3	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	✓		✓				
4	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓		✓		✓		
5	Ferruginous duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	✓						
6	Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	✓		✓				
7	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>	✓				✓		
8	Chukar partridge	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>		✓					
9	Little grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓	
10	Scopoli's shearwater	<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>							
11	Glossy ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>			✓				✓
12	Black-crowned night heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>						✓	✓

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13	Squacco heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	
14	Grey heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>			✓			✓	
15	Purple heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>			✓		✓		✓
16	Great egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>							
17	Little egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>					✓	✓	
18	Great cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓	
19	Bearded Vulture	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>			✓				
20	Griffon vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21	Bonelli's eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>				✓			
22	Eastern imperial eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>		✓					
23	Golden eagle	<i>Aquila chysaetos</i>			✓				
24	Short-toed eagle	<i>Circus gallicus</i>					✓		
25	Eurasian sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	✓						
26	Western marsh harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	✓						
27	Pallid harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>		✓					
28	Common buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
29	Common moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
30	Eurasian coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓

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31	Black-winged stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>								✓
32	Little ringed plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>								✓
33	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>								✓
34	Temminck's stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>								✓
35	Common sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	✓		✓				✓	✓
36	Wood sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>								✓
37	Spotted redshank	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>								✓
38	Common greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>							✓	✓
39	Yellow-legged gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
40	Gull-billed tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>								✓
41	Common wood pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		✓	✓					
42	Eurasian collared dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
43	Eurasian scops owl	<i>Otus scops</i>							H	
44	Alpine swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>			✓	✓			✓	
45	Common swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
46	European bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>							✓	
47	Eurasian hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>				✓	✓		H	
48	Common kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓

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49	Peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>							✓	
50	Woodchat shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>			✓	✓				
51	Eurasian jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>			✓		✓			
52	Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>			✓		✓			
53	Western jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>				✓				
54	Hooded crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
55	Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
56	Great tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		
57	Blue tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		
58	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>			✓	✓				
59	Greater short-toed lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>		✓						✓
60	Sand martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓
61	Barn swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
62	Eurasian crag martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>			✓	✓				
63	Common house martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓		✓	✓				✓
64	Red-rumped swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>						✓		✓
65	Cetti's warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>					✓			
66	Common chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>			✓		✓			

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67	Wood warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	✓		✓					
68	Great reed warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>								H
69	Sedge warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>			✓					
70	Eurasian reed warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>			✓					
71	Eurasian blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		✓	✓	✓				
72	Common whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>			✓					
73	Sardinian warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
74	Eurasian wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>								
75	Short-toed treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>			✓	✓	✓			
76	Common blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
77	Song thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>			✓					
78	Blue rock thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>			✓	✓				
79	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		✓	✓					
80	European stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			
81	Northern wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>			✓					
82	Black-eared wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>		✓	✓					
83	House sparrow	<i>Passer italiae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
84	Spanish sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>								✓

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85	Tree sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>					✓		
86	Western yellow wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava flavissima</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓
87	White wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>			✓				
88	Tawny pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>							✓
89	Tree pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓		
90	Red-throated pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>							✓
91	Common chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
92	European greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
93	Common linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		✓	✓				
94	European goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓				✓
95	Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>			✓				
96	European serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		✓				✓	
97	Corn bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓

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	Common Name	Scientific Name	Location
	PLANTS		
	Araucariaceae		
1	Norfolk island pine	<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>	Planted
	Pinaceae		
1	Stone pine	<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Chania
2	Allepo pine	<i>Pinus halpensis ssp brutia</i>	Throughout
	Cupressaceae		
1	Italian cypress	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	Throughout
	Lauraceae		
1	Bay laurel	<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	Planted
2	Avocado	<i>Persea americana</i>	Planted
	Araceae		
1	Cretan arum	<i>Arum cretica</i>	Throughout
2	Dragon arum	<i>Dranunculus vulgaris</i>	Maquis & garrigue
3	Common arisarum	<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	Kotsipos Gorge
4	Calla lily	<i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i>	Planted

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	Liliaceae		
1		<i>Gagea graeca</i>	Above Spili
2		<i>Tulipa bakeri</i>	Above Spili
	Orchidaceae		
1	Naked man orchid	<i>Orchis italica</i>	Above Spili
2	Bory's orchid	<i>Orchis boryi</i>	Above Spili
3	Four spotted orchid	<i>Orchis quadripunctata</i>	path on fm Moni Gouverneto
4	Sparse-flowered orchid	<i>Orchis pauciflora</i>	path on fm Moni Gouverneto
5	Pink butterfly	<i>Anacamptis papilionaceae</i>	Maquis & garrigue
6	Milk orchid	<i>Neotinea lactea</i>	Above Spili
7	Dingy bee orchid	<i>Ophrys fusca ssp fusca</i>	Armeni Tombs
8	Bumblebee orchid	<i>Ophrys bombyliflora</i>	
9	Sawfly orchid	<i>Ophrys tenthredinifera</i>	Armeni Tombs
10	Yellow bee orchid	<i>Ophrys lutea ssp lutea</i>	Armeni Tombs
11		<i>Ophrys lutea ssp galilaea</i>	path on fm Moni Gouverneto
12		<i>Ophrys scolopax ssp heldreichii</i>	Armeni Tombs
13		<i>Ophrys sphegodes ssp cretensis</i>	
14	Cretan bee orchid	<i>Ophrys cretica</i>	

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15	Giant orchid	<i>Himantoglossum robertianum</i>	Armeni Tombs
16		<i>Serpia parviflora</i>	Nr Tersanas Pool
17		<i>Serpis vomeracacea ssp laxoflora</i>	Nr Tersanas Pool
	Iridaceae		
1		<i>Iris unguicularis ssp cretensis</i>	South of Spili
2		<i>Iris mediteranea</i>	path on fm Moni Gouverneto
3		<i>Iris albicans</i>	Moni Gouverneto
4	Widow iris	<i>Iris tuberosa</i>	Above Spili
5		<i>Moraea sisyrinchum</i>	Above Spili
6		<i>Crocus seiberi</i>	Samaria Gorge
7	Sand crocus	<i>Romulea columnae</i>	Samaria Gorge
8		<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Akrotiri N of Chania
	Asphodelaceae		
1		<i>Asphodelus ramosus</i>	Throughout
2		<i>Asphodeline lutea</i>	Maquis & garrigue
	Amaryllidaceae		
1		<i>Narcissus tazetta</i>	Above Spili
	Asparagaceae		

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1	Common star of Bethlehem	<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i>	Mountians
2	Red squill	<i>Drimia maritima</i>	Maquis & garrigue
3	Tassel hyacinth	<i>Leopoldia comosa</i>	Agia Lake
4		<i>Agave americana</i>	Throughout
5	Biutcher's broom	<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Armeni Tombs
	Arecaceae		
1		<i>Phoenix theophrasti</i>	Megalopotamos Valley (BE only)
	Typhaceae		
1		<i>Typha latifolia</i>	Agia Lake
	Poaceae		
1	Common reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Agia Lake
2		<i>Briza maxima</i>	Throughout
3	Giant reed	<i>Arundo donax</i>	Agia Lake
	Papaveraceae		
1	Common poppy	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Throughout
2	Red squill	<i>Papaver purpureomarginatum</i>	Nr Malia
3	Opium poppy	<i>Papaver somniferum</i>	Nr Malia
4		<i>Adonis cretica</i>	Nr Tersanas Pool

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5	White ramping-fumitory	<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	Nr Malia
6	Yellow-horned poppy	<i>Glacium flavum</i>	Sandy shore, Chania
	Berberaceae		
1		<i>Berberis cretica</i>	Omalos plateau
	Ranunculaceae		
1		<i>Ranunculus creticus</i>	Kotsiphos Gorge
2		<i>Anenome coronaria</i>	Akrotiri N of Chania
3		<i>Anenome hortensis ssp heldreichii</i>	Armeni Tombs
4	Fig	<i>Ficaria verna</i>	Throughout
	Plantanaceae		
1	Oriental plane	<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	Throughout
	Crassulaceae		
1	Shore stonecrop	<i>Sedum litoreum</i>	Sandy shores
2	Navelwort	<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	
	Fabiaceae		
1	Arabian scurfpea	<i>Bituminaria bituminosa</i>	Throughout
2		<i>Acacia retinoides</i>	Throughout
3		<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	Throughout

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4		<i>Circis siliquastrum</i>	Mostly urban areas
5		<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish broom
6	Hairy thorny broom	<i>Calicotome villosa</i>	Maquis & garrigue
7		<i>Genista acanththoclada</i>	Maquis & garrigue
8	Hairy yellow vetch	<i>Vicia hybrida</i>	South of Spili
9	Asparagus pea	<i>Lotus tetragonolobius</i>	Throughout
10		<i>Lotus creticus</i>	Akrotiri N of Chania
11	White cover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	Throughout
12		<i>Trifolium uniflorum</i>	Mountains
13	Red vetchling	<i>Lathyrus cicera</i>	Armeni Tombs
14	Tree medic	<i>Medico arborea</i>	Akrotiri N of Chania
15		<i>Medico marina</i>	Sandy shores
16		<i>Ebenus cretica</i>	Kotsipohos gorge
	Polygalaceae		
1		<i>Polygala myrtifolia</i>	Planted
	Rosaceae		
1	Thorny burnet	<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	Maquis & garrigue
2		<i>Rubus sanctus</i>	Agia Lake

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3		<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Omalos plateau
4	Peach	<i>Prunus persica</i>	Planted
5	Almond	<i>Prunus dulcis</i>	Planted
6		<i>Pyrus spinosa</i>	Omalos plateau
7	Loquat	<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Planted
8	Mediterranean buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	Maquis & garrigue, planted
9		<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Planted
	Ulmaceae		
1		<i>Zelkova abelicea</i>	Omalos plateau
2	Elm	<i>Ulmus spp.</i>	Agia Lake
	Moraceae		
1		<i>Morus alba</i>	Planted
	Urticaceae		
1		<i>Urtica pilulifera</i>	Georgiopolis
2	Pellitory of the wall	<i>Parietaria judaeca</i>	Throughout
	Fagaceae		
1	Sweet chestnut	<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Mountains
2	Kermes oak	<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	Omalos plateaux

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3	Valonia oak	<i>Quercus macrolepis</i>	Armeni Tombs
	Juglandaceae		
1	Walnut	<i>Juglans regia</i>	Planted
	Salicaceae		
1		<i>Salix pedicellata</i>	Agia Lake
2		<i>Populus alba</i>	Planted
	Cucurbitaceae		
1	Squirting cucumber	<i>Ecballium elaterium</i>	Throughout
2	Cretan white bryony	<i>Bryonia cretica</i>	Irini Gorge
	Euphorbiaceae		
1	Large Mediterranean spurge	<i>Euphorbia characias</i>	Throughout
2	Annual mercury	<i>Mercurialis annua</i>	Throughout
3	Castor oil plant	<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Naturalised
	Linaceae		
1	Pale flax	<i>Linum bienne</i>	Aposelemis River
2		<i>Linum arboreum</i>	Kourtaliotiko & Kotsiphos Gorges
	Geraniaceae		
1		<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	Irini Gorge

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2	Herb Robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Aguas Lake
3	Dove's foot cranesbill	<i>Geranium molle</i>	Throughout
4	Common stocks-bill	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Throughout
	Myrtaceae		
1	Blue gum	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	Planted
2	Bottlebrush	<i>Melaleuca citrina</i>	Planted
	Anacardaceae		
1	Mastic	<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Maquis and garrigue
2	Turpentine	<i>Pistacia terebinthus</i>	Mountains
	Sapindaceae		
1	Montpellier maple	<i>Acer monspessulanum</i>	Omalos Plateux
	Rutaceae		
1	Fringed rue	<i>Ruta chalepensis</i>	Throughout
2	Orange	<i>Citrus x aurantium</i>	Planted
3	Lemon	<i>Citrus x limon</i>	Planted
	Simabouraceae		
1	Tree of heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Planted
	Meliaceae		

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1		<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Planted
	Malvaceae		
1	Common mallow	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Throughout
2	Cretan tree-mallow	<i>Malva multiflora</i>	Morisonis river
3	Bottle tree	<i>Brachychiton populneus</i>	Planted
	Thymelaceae		
1	Hairy spurge flax	<i>Thymelaea hirsuta</i>	Maquis and garrigue
2		<i>Daphne sericea</i>	Mountains
	Cistaceae		
1		<i>Cistus creticus</i>	Throughout
2	Sage-leaved rockrose	<i>Cistus salviifolius</i>	Throughout
3		<i>Fumana arabica</i>	Maquis and garrigue
	Resedaceae		
1		<i>Reseda alba</i>	Akrotiri N of Chania
	Brassicaceae		
1	Wild radish	<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	Throughout
2	Honesty	<i>Lunaria annua</i>	Georgiopolis
3		<i>Cardamine graeca</i>	Throughout

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4	Whitlow grass	<i>Erophila verna</i>	Mountains
5		<i>Malcolmia maritima</i>	Sandy shores
6	Spring rock-cress	<i>Arabis verna</i>	Throughout
7		<i>Aubrieta deltoidea</i>	Mountains
8	Buckler mustard	<i>Biscutella didyma</i>	Ameni tombs
9	Sea rocket	<i>Cakale maritime</i>	Sandy shores
10		<i>Brassica cretica</i>	Kotsiphos & Irini Gorges
	Tamariaceae		
1		<i>Tamarix spp.</i>	Throughout
	Plumbaginaceae		
1	Thrift	<i>Armeria canescens</i>	Omalos plateau
2	Winged sea lavender	<i>Limonium sinuatum</i>	Nr Malia
	Polygonaceae		
1	Redshank	<i>Persicaria maculosa</i>	Agias Lake
2	Horned dock	<i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i>	Throughout
	Caryophyllaceae		
1	Small-flowered catchfly	<i>Silene gallica</i>	
2	Hairless catchfly	<i>Silene behen</i>	Throughout

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3	Sticky mouse-ear	<i>Cerastium glomeratum (or other spp. complex)</i>	Throughout
	Amaranthaceae		
1	Glasswort	<i>Salicornia europaea</i>	Moronis rivermouth
2	Shrubby seablite	<i>Suaeda vera</i>	Moronis rivermouth
	Aizoaceae		
1	Hotttentot fig	<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Sandy shores
	Nyctaginaceae		
1		<i>Bougainvillea glabra</i>	Planted
	Cactaceae		
1	Prickly pear	<i>Opuntia maxima</i>	Naturalised
	Primulaceae		
1		<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Throughout
2		<i>Cyclamen cretum</i>	Botanical Garden of Crete
	Ericaceae		
1		<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Botanical Gardens of Crete & Mountains
2	Tree heath	<i>Erica arborea</i>	Mountains
	Rubiaceae		

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1		<i>Galium aparine</i>	Aposelemis river
2	Wall valantia	<i>Valantia muralis</i>	Throughout
	Apocynaceae		
1	Oleander	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Planted
2	Periwinkle	<i>Vinca major</i>	Planted
	Boraginaceae		
1		<i>Cyanoglossum creticum</i>	Nr Tessanas Pool
2		<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Nr Tessanas Pool
3		<i>Echium angustifolium</i>	
4	Borage	<i>Borago officinalis</i>	Throughout
5		<i>Symphytum creticum</i>	Kotsiphos Gorge
6	Goldendrop	<i>Onosoma graeca</i>	Armeni tombs
	Convolvulaceae		
	Solanaceae		
1		<i>Brugmansia spp</i>	Planted
	Oleaceae		
1		<i>Jasminum officinale</i>	Planted
2		<i>Olea europea</i>	Throughout

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3		<i>Phyllyrea latifolia</i>	Mountains
	Plantaginaceae		
1		<i>Veronica anagallis-aquatica</i>	Agia Lake
2	Persian speedwell	<i>Veronica persica</i>	Throughout
3	Cretan plantain	<i>Plantago lagopus</i>	Throughout
4	Ivy-leaved toadflax	<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Throughout
	Acanthaceae		
1		<i>Acanthus mollis</i>	Planted
	Scrophulariaceae		
1	Pale figwort	<i>Scrophularia lucida</i>	Knossos
	Bignoniaceae		
1	Jacaranda	<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	Planted
	Lamiaceae		
1	Meadow clary	<i>Salvia verbenica</i>	Armeni Tombs
2	Greek sage	<i>Salvia fruticosa</i>	Maquis and garrigue
3		<i>Teucrium polium</i>	Tersanas pond
4	Prasium	<i>Prasium majus</i>	Throughout
5		<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	Throughout

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6		<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Maquis and garrigue
7	French lavender	<i>Lavandula stoechas</i>	Mountains
8	Lantana	<i>Lantana camara</i>	Naturalised throughout
	Orobanchaceae		
1		<i>Phelipanche mutelii</i>	Maquis and garrigue
2	Broadleaf glandweed	<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	Above Spili
	Asteraceae		
1		<i>Phagnolon rupestre</i>	Kotsiphos Gorge
2		<i>Staehelina petiolata</i>	Kotsiphos Gorge
3		<i>Bellus sylvestris</i>	Throughout
4	Crown daisy	<i>Glebionis coronia</i>	Throughout
5	Corn marigold	<i>Glebonis segetum</i>	Throughout
6	Salsify	<i>Tragopogon porrifolius</i>	Throughout
7		<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Throughout
8	Galactites thistle	<i>Galactites tomentosus</i>	Maquis and garrigue
9		<i>Phagnalon rupestre</i>	Maquis and garrigue
10			
	Caprifoliaceae		

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1	Cretan valerian	<i>Valeriana asarifolia</i>	Kotsiphos Gorge
2		<i>Centranthus calcitrapa</i>	Kotsiphos Gorge
	Pittosporaceae		
1		<i>Pittosporum tobira</i>	Planted
2		<i>Pittosporum heterophyllum</i>	Planted
	Aralaceae		
1	Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	Mountains
	Apiaceae		
1		<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Sandy shore, Chania
2		<i>Smyonium olustrum</i>	Above Spili
3		<i>Smyonium perfoliatum</i>	Throughout
4	Mediterranean hartwort	<i>Torydium apulum</i>	Throughout
5	Giant fennel	<i>Ferula communis</i>	Agia Lake
6	Wild carrot	<i>Daucus carota</i>	Agia Lake
	Aspleniaceae		
1	Rusty-back	<i>Ceterach officinarum</i>	Irini Gorge
	Pteridaceae		
1	Fern spp.	<i>Allosorus spp.</i>	Irini Gorge

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2	Jersey fern	<i>Anogramma leptophylla</i>	Irini Gorge
	Lycopodiaceae		
1	Lesser clubmoss	<i>Selaginella denticulata</i>	Throughout

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