

Cyprus – The Autumn Flowers of Aphrodite's Isle

Naturetrek Tour Report

20th – 27th November 2024



Cyclamen cyprium



Narcissus obsoletus



Ranunculus cytheraeus



Tombs of the Kings

Tour report and photos by David Tattersfield



Naturetrek

Mingledown Barn

Wolf's Lane

Chawton

Alton

Hampshire

GU34 3HJ

UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Tour participants: David Tattersfield (leader) with ten Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Wednesday 20th November

On arrival in Paphos, we received a warm welcome from our friendly bus driver, Pieris. Once we had loaded our luggage, we set off for our first stop at Mandria Beach, not far from the airport, where a sandy coastline is backed by a raised beach. It was immediately clear that a recent storm had caused severe damage to the foreshore and few of the strandline plants had survived. The beach was littered with the remains of Neptune Grass *Posidonia oceanica*, not only the usual bleached leaves, but chunks of rhizomes, dredged up from the seabed. A little further inland, all was much as normal and we identified plants such as Sea Holly *Eryngium maritimum*, Yellow Horned-poppy *Glaucium flavum*, Sea Rocket *Cakile maritima*, and fruiting specimens of Sea Daffodil *Pancratium maritimum*. Other prominent plants included the spiny *Asparagus horridus*, huge bulbs of Sea Squill *Drimia aphylla*, the pungent yellow-flowered *Dittrichia viscosa* and flowering mats of Horsetail Knotgrass *Polygonum equisetiforme*. Several patches of the pale blue Autumn Grape Hyacinth were also noted, a plant we were to encounter on several other occasions through the week. Birds seen during the afternoon included Crested Lark, European Stonechat, Red-throated Pipit, and a flock of over 60 Eurasian Golden Plover. A Hen Harrier flew over, just as we were leaving. Before making our way to the hotel, we visited Paphos sewage works, where we saw a couple of Spur-winged Lapwing, a species with a markedly eastern distribution. After checking into our hotel and running through the checklists, we went out to for dinner. Unfortunately, we had an unplanned walking tour of Paphos, before we located our taverna!! But it was worth the wait, and we enjoyed an excellent meal.

Day 2

Thursday 21st November

We spent the day visiting the two coastal archaeological sites in Paphos. Our first stop was at the Tombs of the Kings, an extensive necropolis, with impressive colonnaded burial chambers, carved in the limestone bedrock. The Autumn Squill *Prospero autumnale* was very common everywhere and the sweetly scented Small Pheasant's-eye *Narcissus obsoletus* made a spectacular show, among the ruins. The patterned leaves of *Cyclamen persicum* could be seen in many of the rock crevices, around the ruins, and we had good views of Schreiber's Spiny-footed Lizards and the large Starred Agama.

We ate our lunch on the coast, near Paphos harbour, where we noted the tiny African Grass Blue, a very confiding pair of Laughing Dove, a Kentish Plover and a small flock of Common Sandpiper. The rest of the afternoon was spent exploring the Paphos Archaeological Site, with its and many colourful mosaics and the impressive theatre. We finished with a wander along the harbour, before boarding the coach and returning to the hotel.

Day 3

Friday 22nd November

We left at 9.00am and drove eastwards into the hills, to Episkopi, where we visited the Environmental Centre. It has a well-planned garden, which illustrated a range of geology and habitats, and their associated flora, and we saw a several Cyprus Water Frogs, along the edge of a stream.

Inside the Centre, we watched a superb video of the wildlife of the adjacent Ezousa Valley and enjoyed visiting the museum, where the wildlife and geology of Cyprus is well-represented and displayed. Below the cliff, on which

the Centre is located, we found Rusty Back Fern *Asplenium ceterach*, Southern Polypody *Polypodium cambricum*, Levant Mullein *Verbascum levanticum* and a large bush of the endemic *Bosea cypria*.

By comparison, the rest of the afternoon was a little disappointing. With the hope of finding Finsch's Wheatear, we visited a hillside near Agia Varvara, one of its usual haunts, during its winter migration, but we had no success. However, to compensate, we did have excellent views of a Little Owl. Our visit to the artificial freshwater pools, in the lower part of the Ezousa Valley, only produced a few Common Snipe and a chorus of frogs, in quite degraded habitat. Our final stop of the afternoon was below the Asprokremmos dam, where some of us managed see several Chukar Partridge and Zitting Cisticola, and we all had excellent views of at least three Long-legged Buzzards, as they wheeled overhead. In the evening, we enjoyed another excellent meal in our taverna.

Day 4

Saturday 23rd November

After packing, we drove up along the coast to the beach at Agios Georgios. The distinctive endemic Dandelion *Taraxacum aphrogenes* was common near the rocky shore, along with the Sea Lavenders, *Limonium sinuatum* and *Limonium virgatum*, Sea Heath *Frankenia hirsuta* and patches of *Narcissus obsoletus*. Turning over stones revealed several young Kotschy's Gecko and a Budak's Snake-eyed Skink, and we found the attractive moth, Crimson Speckled, as well as Clouded Yellow, Long-tailed Blue, Red Admiral and Painted Lady.

We headed inland to the Pegeia Forest, a large tract of protected forest of Calabrian Pine *Pinus brutia* and Phoenician Juniper *Juniperus phoenicea*, with an understorey of Narrow-leaved Cistus *Cistus monspeliensis* and Sage-leaved Cistus *Cistus salviifolius*. We quickly found some lovely flower spikes of Autumn Lady's Tresses *Spiranthes spiralis*, more *Narcissus obsoletus*, and some nice patches of pink and white *Colchicum pusillum*. On areas of thin soil, on the limestone pavement, there were showy patches of the Autumn Buttercup *Ranunculus cytheraeus*.

Lunch was arranged for us, in a popular taverna on our route, and despite it being a busy Saturday, we were served quickly with generous helpings. We watched Troodos Wall Lizards basking on the woodwork, while we ate. Afterwards we drove a short distance to explore a hillside above Kritou Tera, where we soon located the white flowers of the endemic Cyprus Crocus *Crocus veneris*. Beyond the village, at another roadside stop, we found more crocus and some nice flowers of Cypriot Sowbread *Cyclamen cyprium*, growing under another large specimen of *Bosea cypria*. After that, we continued north to the coast, and arrived at our hotel around 5.00pm. The sea was quite calm, and several took the opportunity for a swim, before dinner.

Day 5

Sunday 24th November

By the morning, a strong northerly wind was blowing, and it was appreciably cooler. Pieris was unable to be with us, so we resorted to shanks pony, for the day. Leaving the hotel, we ended up taking a different track from the one that was intended. We had climbed steeply, before realising the error, and it was easier to continue. We followed a level ridge through dense maquis with large bushes of Mediterranean Hawthorn *Crataegus azarolus* and Carob *Ceratonia siliqua*, and open areas of arable fields, which, in places, were blue with large patches of Autumn Grape Hyacinth. We descended into a valley and then followed outcrops of limestone towards the coast, where we found a little shelter to eat our lunch. *Narcissus obsoletus* was growing everywhere in astonishing numbers. We walked down to the beach to witness the huge waves that were breaking on the rocky beach. We returned along the road and were back at the hotel by mid-afternoon.

Day 6

Monday 25th November

With our transport restored, we made the short drive to the Baths of Aphrodite, along the coast. After spending a little time in the botanic garden, we walked down to the spring, where, in the damp conditions, we found plenty of Maidenhair Fern *Adiantum capillus-veneris*, Brookweed *Samolus valerandi* and large patches of *Cyclamen persicum*. We walked along the coastal track for some distance and were delighted to find the first flowers of Polyanthus Daffodil *Narcissus tazetta*, before returning for a taverna lunch.

In the afternoon, we were dropped off at Smygies, where there were outcrops of the serpentine rocks, that fringe the ophiolite of the Akamas peninsula. These rocks have a high concentration of heavy metals, which are limiting to plant growth, and have led to the development of a specialised flora. The ground was parched, after the long hot summer, but we were able to identify such plants as *Alyssum akamasicum*, *Carlina pygmaea*, *Centaurea cypriensis*, *Thymus integer*, and *Odontites linkii* subsp. *cyprius*, all endemic to the island, and growing, sparsely, within a limited area of the stony hillside. We found the flowers and emerging leaves of the autumn-flowering spurge *Euphorbia dimorphocaulon*, more spikes of *Spiranthes spiralis*, and the shrubby *Teucrium creticum*, which despite its name, does not occur in Crete. Finally, we found a couple of Cyprus Freshwater Crabs, in small permanent stream. Light rain started to fall, and we were back at the hotel by 4.30pm.

Day 7

Tuesday 26th November

Under clear skies, we made our first stop, overlooking the Peristerona Gorge, where large shrubs of the narrow-leaved Shrubby Ptilostemon *Ptilostemon chamaepeuce* var. *cyprius* hung from the cliffs and patches of Autumn Buttercup grew between robust clumps of Sea Squill.

Making our way up into the Paphos Forest, we crossed the geological boundary onto the pillow lavas of the Troodos Ophiolite and the flora and scenery changed dramatically. Under the canopy of *Pinus brutia*, we found tall shrubs of the smooth-barked eastern Strawberry Tree *Arbutus andrachne* and a ground-layer of various species of *Cistus*. As we climbed higher, we encountered a complex of intruded basaltic dykes, with tall specimens of Royal Oak *Quercus infectoria* subsp. *veneris* and the lively autumn colours of Syrian Maple *Acer obtusifolium* and Sumach *Rhus coriaria*.

We had our picnic lunch at Stavros tis Psokas Forest Station, before looking at the captive herd of Cyprus Mouflon, in a nearby enclosure. In shaded gullies, under the trees, we found some nice patches of *Cyclamen cyprium*, with beautifully patterned leaves. Further up the mountain, Golden Oak *Quercus alnifolia* formed pure stands, on steep north-facing slopes, and the Cyprus Cedar *Cedrus libani* var. *brevifolia* started to appear in the forest. It was a cold day, with a dusting of snow and we made a brisk walk along a forest track, before returning to the coast.

Day 8

Wednesday 27th November

Our week in Cyprus was almost at an end. We made a brief diversion to the Evretou dam, on the way back to Paphos, and after relocating our two Spur-winged Lapwings at the sewage works, we arrived at the airport with plenty of time to check in for our return flight.

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Species lists

Plants

Latin name	Common name	Notes
• = endemic to Cyprus, ‡ = naturalised or cultivated alien		
PTERIDOPHYTES	FERNS & FERN ALLIES	
Aspleniaceae	Spleenwort Family	
<i>Asplenium ceterach</i>	Rusty-back Fern	Rocks and walls
Dennstaedtiaceae	Bracken Family	
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	Mountains
Equisetaceae	Horsetail Family	
<i>Equisetum ramosissimum</i>	Branched Horsetail	Wet places. Smygies
Polypodiaceae	Polypody Family	
<i>Polypodium cambricum</i>	Southern Polypody	Shaded rocks. Episkopi
Pteridaceae	Ribbon Fern Family	
<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair Fern	Damp cliffs and springs
<i>Anogramma leptophylla</i>	Jersey Fern	Wet rocks. Baths of Aphrodite
Selaginellaceae	Lesser Clubmoss Family	
<i>Selaginella denticulata</i>	Mediterranean Clubmoss	Damp earth. Akamas
GYMNOSPERMS	CONIFERS	
Araucariaceae	Monkey-puzzle Family	
<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i> ‡	Norfolk Island Pine	Planted
Cupressaceae	Juniper Family	
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> forma. <i>horizontalis</i>	Cypress	Frequent
<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i>	Phoenicean Juniper	Common
Ephedraceae	Joint-pine Family	
<i>Ephedra foeminea</i>	Joint-pine	Common
Pinaceae	Pine Family	
<i>Cedrus libani</i> var. <i>brevifolia</i> •	Cyprus Cedar	Mountain forest. Troodos
<i>Pinus brutia</i>	Turkish Pine	Common
<i>Pinus halepensis</i> ‡	Aleppo Pine	Widely planted
<i>Pinus pinea</i> ‡	Stone Pine	Planted. Near coasts
ANGIOSPERMS	FLOWERING PLANTS	
DICOTYLEDONS		
Amaranthaceae	Goosefoot Family	

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• = endemic to Cyprus, ‡ = naturalised or cultivated alien		
<i>Amaranthus retroflexus</i> ‡	Common Pigweed	Frequent. Weedy places
<i>Atriplex halimus</i>	Shrubby Orache	Evretou dam
<i>Bosea cypria</i> •		Occasional in maquis
<i>Noaea mucronata</i>		Occasional near coast
<i>Salsola kali</i>	Prickly Saltwort	Mandria beach
<i>Suaeda vera</i>	Shrubby Sea-blite	Agios Georgios
Anacardiaceae	Sumach Family	
<i>Pistacia atlantica</i> ‡	Atlas Mastic Tree	Kritou Tera
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastic Tree	Common
<i>Pistacia terebinthus</i>	Turpentine Tree	Common
<i>Rhus coriaria</i>	Sumach	Frequent in mountains
<i>Schinus molle</i> ‡	Peruvian Pepper Tree	Frequently planted
<i>Schinus terebinthifolia</i> ‡	Brazilian Pepper Tree	Street tree
Apiaceae	Carrot Family	
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	Sea Samphire	Rocky coasts
<i>Daucus carota</i> subsp. <i>carota</i>	Wild Carrot	Common
<i>Daucus carota</i> subsp. <i>maximus</i>	Wild Carrot	Common
<i>Eryngium creticum</i>	Cretan Eryngo	Frequent
<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Sea Holly	Mandria beach
<i>Ferula communis</i>	Giant Fennel	Common
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel	Common
<i>Smyrniolum olusatrum</i>	Alexanders	Troodos mountains
<i>Smyrniolum perfoliatum</i> subsp. <i>rotundifolium</i>	Perfoliate Alexanders	Troodos mountains
Asteraceae	Daisy Family	
<i>Bellis sylvestris</i>	Southern Daisy	Locally common
<i>Bidens</i> sp. ‡	A Bur-marigold	Occasional weed
<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Field Marigold	Frequent
<i>Carlina libanotica</i>		Common
<i>Carthamus creticus</i>	Smooth Distaff Thistle	Occasional
<i>Centaurea akamantis</i> •	Akamas Knapweed	Baths of Aphrodite Garden
<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>	Red Star-thistle	Occasional
<i>Centaurea cyprensis</i> •	Cyprus Knapweed	Serpentine rocks. Smygies
<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	Rush Skeletonweed	Frequent
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Chicory	Occasional. Roadsides
<i>Cichorium spinosum</i>	Spiny Chicory	Frequent near coast
<i>Crocodylium creticum</i>	Dwarf Cyprus Cornflower	Mandria beach
<i>Dittrichia graveolens</i>	Aromatic Inula	Locally common
<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	Stink Aster	Common
<i>Echinops spinosissimus</i>	Spiniest Globe Thistle	Locally common
<i>Erigeron bonariensis</i> ‡	Argentine Fleabane	Common. Weedy places
<i>Helichrysum italicum</i> subsp. <i>italicum</i>	Curry Plant	Frequent. Mountains
<i>Helichrysum stoechas</i> subsp. <i>barrelieri</i>	Golden Cassidony	Frequent. Lowlands
<i>Leontodon tuberosus</i>	Tuberous Hawkbit	Common
<i>Onopordon cyprium</i> •	Cyprian Cotton Thistle	Locally common. Agia Varvara

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<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>	Spiny Golden Star	Common
<i>Phagnalon rupestre</i>	Shrubby Cudweed	Common. Rocky places
<i>Picnemon acarna</i>	Yellow-spine Thistle	Occasional
<i>Ptilostemon chamaepeuce</i> var. <i>cyprius</i> •	Shrubby Ptilostemon	Frequent on hillsides. Peristerona
<i>Taraxacum aphrogenes</i> •	A Dandelion	Locally common. Rocky beaches
<i>Taraxacum cyprium</i>	A Dandelion	Tombs of the Kings
<i>Xanthium spinosum</i> ‡	Spiny Cocklebur	Occasional weed
<i>Xanthium strumarium</i> ‡	Cocklebur	Occasional weed
Betulaceae	Birch Family	
<i>Alnus orientalis</i>	Eastern Alder	Damp valleys in mountains
Bignoniaceae	Bignonia Family	
<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i> ‡	Jacaranda	Cultivated
<i>Tecomaria capensis</i> ‡	Cape Honeysuckle	Cultivated
<i>Tecoma stans</i> ‡	Yellow Trumpetbush	Cultivated
Boraginaceae	Borage Family	
<i>Anchusa strigosa</i>	Prickly Alkanet	Kritou Tera
<i>Cordia myxa</i> ‡	Assyrian Plum	Mandria. Agios Georgios
<i>Echium angustifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved Bugloss	Common near coasts
<i>Heliotropium hirsutissimum</i>	Hairy Heliotrope	Frequent
<i>Lithdora hispidula</i> subsp. <i>versicolor</i>	Shrubby Gromwell	Common
Brassicaceae	Cabbage Family	
<i>Alyssum akamasicum</i> •	Akamas Alyssum	Serpentine rocks. Smygies
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sea Rocket	Common on beaches
<i>Erucaria hispanica</i>	Spanish Mustard	Roadside weed
<i>Sinapis alba</i>	White Mustard	Roadside weed
Capparaceae	Caper Family	
<i>Capparis spinosa</i>	Caper	Common
Caprifoliaceae	Honeysuckle Family	
<i>Lonicera etrusca</i>	Etruscan Honeysuckle	Common
<i>Pterocephalus multiflorus</i> subsp. <i>multiflorus</i> •		Occasional in phrygana
<i>Valeriana italica</i>	Italian Valerian	Rock crevices. Akamas
Caryophyllaceae	Pink Family	
<i>Dianthus strictus</i> subsp. <i>troodi</i> •	A Pink	Local on limestone rocks
<i>Paronychia argentea</i>	Silvery Paronychia	Common on coast
Cistaceae	Cistus Family	
<i>Cistus creticus</i>	Pink Cistus	Common
<i>Cistus monspeliensis</i>	Narrow-leaved Cistus	Locally common
<i>Cistus salviifolius</i>	Sage-leaved Cistus	Common
<i>Fumana arabica</i>	Arabian Fumana	Frequent in phrygana

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<i>Fumana thymifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Fumana	Frequent in phrygana
Convolvulaceae	Bindweed Family	
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Bindweed	Frequent
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	Roadside. Latchi
<i>Ipomea indica</i> ‡	Blue Morning Glory	Common
Crassulaceae	Stonecrop Family	
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort	Occasional on rocks
Cucurbitaceae	White Bryony Family	
<i>Ecballium elaterium</i>	Squirting Cucumber	Common
Ericaceae	Heather Family	
<i>Arbutus andrachne</i>	Eastern Strawberry Tree	Frequent in mountains
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry Tree	Garden. Episkopi
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family	
<i>Euphorbia chamaesyce</i>	Small Spurge	Common. Tracksides
<i>Euphorbia dimorphocaulon</i>		Frequent
<i>Euphorbia hypericifolia</i> ‡	Graceful Spurge	Weed of cultivation
<i>Euphorbia veneris</i> •	Aphrodite's Spurge	Garden. Episkopi
<i>Mercurialis annua</i>	Annual Mercury	Common
<i>Ricinus communis</i> ‡	Castor-oil Plant	Frequent weed
Fabaceae	Pea Family	
<i>Acacia saligna</i> ‡	Blue-leaved Wattle	Common
<i>Calicotome villosa</i>	Spiny Broom	Common
<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	Carob	Common
<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i> ‡	Judas Tree	Cultivated
<i>Genista fasselata</i> subsp. <i>crudelis</i> •	Fasselated Broom	Common
<i>Lathyrus aphaca</i>	Meadow Vetchling	Frequent
<i>Medicago marina</i>	Sea Medick	Mandria beach
<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Lucerne	Crop
<i>Ononis spinosa</i> subsp. <i>leiosperma</i>	A Spiny Restharrow	Phrygana
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom	Roadsides
Fagaceae	Oak Family	
<i>Quercus coccifera</i> subsp. <i>calliprinos</i>	Kermes Oak	Common
<i>Quercus ilex</i> ‡	Holm Oak	Planted
<i>Quercus infectoria</i> subsp. <i>veneris</i>	Royal Oak	Mountains
<i>Quercus alnifolia</i> •	Golden Oak	Mountain forest. Troodos
Frankeniaceae	Sea-heath Family	
<i>Frankenia hirsuta</i>	Sea-heath	Beaches
Lamiaceae	Dead-nettle Family	

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<i>Acanthoprasium integrifolium</i> •		Occasional. Rocky habitats
<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	Henbit Dead-nettle	Occasional
<i>Micromeria myrtifolia</i>	Myrtle-leaved Savory	Rocky phrygana
<i>Micromeria nervosa</i>	Veined Savory	Frequent. Rocky places
<i>Ocimum basilicum</i> ‡	Basil	Cultivated
<i>Origanum cordifolium</i> •		Planted. Stavros tis Psokas
<i>Origanum majorana</i> subsp. <i>tenuifolium</i> •	Wild Marjoram	Phrygana. Latchi
<i>Phlomis cypria</i> subsp. <i>occidentalis</i> •		Troodos mountains
<i>Prasium majus</i>	White Hedge-nettle	Common. Maquis
<i>Salvia fruticosa</i>	Greek Sage	Rocky hillsides. Peristerona
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	Wild Clary	Occasional
<i>Scutellaria cypria</i> •	Cyprus Skullcap	Mountains. Stavros tis Psokas
<i>Teucrium creticum</i>		Smygies
<i>Teucrium divaricatum</i> subsp. <i>canescens</i> •	Spreading Germander	Phrygana. Peristerona
<i>Teucrium kotschyannum</i>	Kotschy's Germander	Common in mountains.
<i>Teucrium micropodioides</i> •	Cyprus Germander	Frequent
<i>Thymbra capitata</i>	Mediterranean Thyme	Common
<i>Thymus integer</i> •		Serpentine rocks. Smygies
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Chaste Tree	Frequent. Riverbeds
Lauraceae	Laurel Family	
<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	Bay	Cultivated
Lythraceae	Purple-loosestrife Family	
<i>Punica granatum</i> ‡	Pomegranate	Cultivated
Malvaceae	Mallow Family	
<i>Malva multiflora</i>	Smaller Tree-mallow	Roadsides
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow	Common
Meliaceae	Persian Lilac Family	
<i>Melia azedarach</i> ‡	Persian Lilac	Cultivated
Moraceae	Fig Family	
<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig	Common
<i>Ficus elastica</i> ‡	Rubber Plant	Planted
<i>Morus alba</i> ‡	White Mulberry	Planted
Myrtaceae	Myrtle Family	
<i>Myrtus communis</i>	Myrtle	Occasional in maquis
Nyctaginaceae	Bougainvillea Family	
<i>Bougainvillea ×buttiana</i> ‡	Bougainvillea	Cultivated
Oleaceae	Olive Family	
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Wild Olive	Frequent in phrygana
<i>Phillyrea latifolia</i>	Mock Privet	Rare. Paphos Forest

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• = endemic to Cyprus, ‡ = naturalised or cultivated alien		
Orobanchaceae	Broomrape Family	
<i>Odontites linkii</i> subsp. <i>cyprius</i> •		Smygies
Oxalidaceae	Wood-sorrel Family	
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i> ‡	Bermuda Buttercup	Common weed
<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Procumbent Yellow-sorrel	Roadside weed
Papaveraceae	Poppy Family	
<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	Yellow Horned-poppy	Mandria beach
Plantaginaceae	Plantain Family	
<i>Misopates orontium</i>	Weasel's-snout	Frequent
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	Common weed
<i>Plantago weldenii</i>	Welden's Plantain	Widespread
Platanaceae	Plane Tree Family	
<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	Oriental Plane	River valleys
Plumbaginaceae	Thrift Family	
<i>Limonium sinuatum</i>	Winged Sea-lavender	Common. Beaches
<i>Limonium virgatum</i>	Olive-leaved Sea-lavender	Common. Beaches
Polygonaceae	Dock Family	
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	Knotgrass	Waste places. Roadsides
<i>Polygonum equisetiforme</i>	Horsetail Knotgrass	Waste places. Beaches
Portulacaceae	Purslane Family	
<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Common Purslane	Frequent
Primulaceae	Primrose Family	
<i>Cyclamen cyprium</i> •	Cypriot Sowbread	Local. Shaded woodland
<i>Cyclamen persicum</i>	Persian Sowbread	Rocky habitats. Locally common
<i>Samolus valerandi</i>	Brookweed	Springs
Ranunculaceae	Buttercup Family	
<i>Clematis cirrhosa</i>	Maiden's Bower	Occasional in maquis
<i>Ranunculus cytheraeus</i>	Autumn Buttercup	Locally common
Rhamnaceae	Buckthorn Family	
<i>Rhamnus lycioides</i> subsp. <i>graeca</i>	A Buckthorn	Phrygana
<i>Ziziphus lotus</i>	Jujube	Paphos Archaeological Park
Rosaceae	Rose Family	
<i>Crataegus azarolus</i>	Mediterranean Hawthorn	Frequent in maquis
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	
<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i> ‡	Loquat	Cultivated

Latin name	Common name	Notes
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<i>Pyrus syriaca</i>	Syrian Pear	Frequent
<i>Rubus sanctus</i>	Bramble	Common
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	Salad Burnet	Mountains. Stavros tis Psokas
<i>Sanguisorba verrucosa</i>	Mediterranean Salad Burnet	Occasional
<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	Thorny Burnet	Common in phrygana
Rubiaceae	Bedstraw Family	
<i>Asperula cypria</i> •	Cyprus Woodruff	Dry hillsides. Common
<i>Rubia lauræ</i> •	Cyprus Madder	Smygies
<i>Rubia tenuifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved Madder	Common
Sapindaceae	Maple Family	
<i>Acer obtusifolium</i>	Syrian Maple	Mountains. Paphos Forest
<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i> ‡	Hopbush	Occasional. Naturalised
Scrophulariaceae	Figwort Family	
<i>Verbascum levanticum</i>	Levant Mullein	Cliffs. Episkopi
<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	Wavy-leaved Mullein	Common
Simaroubaceae	Tree-of-heaven Family	
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i> ‡	Tree-of-heaven	Frequent
Solanaceae	Nightshade Family	
<i>Datura innoxia</i> ‡	Downy Thorn Apple	Episkopi
<i>Lycium schweinfurthii</i>	Schweinfurth's Tea-plant	Paphos Archaeological Park
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i> ‡	Shrub Tobacco	Paphos Archaeological Park
<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	Black Nightshade	Common
Styracaceae	Storax Family	
<i>Styrax officinalis</i>	Storax	Frequent
Tamaricaceae	Tamarisk Family	
<i>Tamarix smyrnensis</i>	Smyrna Tamarisk	Widespread
<i>Tamarix tetragyna</i>	Four-stamen Tamarisk	Paphos Archaeological Park
Urticaceae	Nettle Family	
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory-of-the-wall	Common
<i>Urtica pilulifera</i>	Roman Nettle	Occasional weed
Verbenaceae	Verbena Family	
<i>Lantana camara</i> ‡	Lantana	Common
<i>Verbena officinalis</i>	Vervain	Frequent. Tracksides
Violaceae	Violet Family	
<i>Viola alba</i>	White Violet	Stavros tis Psokas
Vitaceae	Vine Family	

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<i>Vitis vinifera</i> var. <i>sylvestris</i>	Wild Vine	Occasional in maquis
Zygophyllaceae	Caltrop Family	
<i>Zygophyllum creticum</i>	Fagonia	Phrygana. Asprokremmos Dam
MONOCOTYLEDONS		
Amaryllidaceae	Daffodil Family	
<i>Allium ampeloprasum</i>	Broad-leaved Wild Leek	Common
<i>Allium willeaenii</i> •		Episkopi cliffs
<i>Narcissus obsoletus</i>	Small Pheasant's-eye	Locally common
<i>Narcissus tazetta</i>	Polyanthus Daffodil	Akamas
<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	Sea Daffodil	Mandria beach
Araceae	Arum Family	
<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	Friar's Cowl	Common
<i>Colocasia esculenta</i> ‡	Taro	Cultivated
Arecaceae	Palm Family	
<i>Phoenix canariensis</i> ‡	Canary Palm	Planted
<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i> ‡	Date Palm	Planted
<i>Washingtonia filifera</i> ‡	Washington Fan Palm	Planted
Asparagaceae	Asparagus Family	
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	Mediterranean Wild Asparagus	Common
<i>Asparagus horridus</i>		Frequent. Lowlands
<i>Drimys asphylla</i>	Sea Squill	Common
<i>Muscari parviflorum</i>	Autumn Grape Hyacinth	Common
<i>Prospero autumnale</i>	Autumn Squill	Common
Asphodelaceae	Asphodel Family	
<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	Hollow-stemmed Asphodel	Frequent
<i>Asphodelus ramosus</i>	Branched Asphodel	Common
Colchicaceae	Meadow Saffron Family	
<i>Colchicum pusillum</i>		Pegeia forest
Cyperaceae	Sedge Family	
<i>Cyperus esculentus</i>	Yellow Nutsedge	Arable weed
Iridaceae	Iris Family	
<i>Crocus veneris</i> •	Cyprus Crocus	Hillsides. Kritou Tera
Juncaceae	Rush Family	
<i>Juncus acutus</i>	Sharp Rush	Coast
Orchidaceae	Orchid Family	

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<i>Ophrys</i> spp.	Bee Orchids	Various
<i>Spiranthes spiralis</i>	Autumn Lady's Tresses	Locally common
Poaceae	Grass Family	
<i>Arundo donax</i> ‡	Giant Reed	Common
<i>Briza minor</i>	Lesser Quaking-grass	
<i>Catapodium rigidum</i>	Fern-grass	Agios Georgios
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Bermuda-grass	Common
<i>Hyparrhenia hirta</i>	Common Thatching Grass	Common
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	Hare's-tail Grass	Common
<i>Oloptum miliaceum</i>	Smilo Grass	Frequent
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common Reed	Wet places
<i>Phragmites frutescens</i>	Bushy Reed	Riverbed. Agia Vavara
<i>Setaria verticillata</i>	Rough Bristle-grass	Frequent. Waste places
<i>Setaria viridis</i>	Green Bristle-grass	Occasional. Waste places
<i>Thinopyrum junceum</i>	Sand Couch-grass	Mandria Beach
Posidoniaceae	Neptune-grass Family	
<i>Posidonia oceanica</i>	Neptune-grass	Sub-marine
Smilacaceae	Smilax Family	
<i>Smilax aspera</i>	Smilax	Common

Birds (H = Heard only)

Common name	Latin name	November 2024							
		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Chukar Partridge	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>			✓			✓		H
Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i> var. <i>domestica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>		✓	✓				✓	
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>			✓					
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>		✓						
Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>	✓							✓
Eurasian Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	60 +	20 +						•
Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>		✓						
Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>			✓					
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		✓						
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>					✓			
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>		✓						
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		✓			✓	✓		
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>								✓
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>								✓
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			✓					
Hen Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	✓							

Common name	Latin name	November 2024							
		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>			✓				3	✓
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>				✓				
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>			✓					
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>					✓	✓		
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>							✓	
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cyprus Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater cypriotes</i>							✓	
Cyprus Great Tit	<i>Parus major aphrodite</i>		✓	✓			✓		
Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>						✓		
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	✓	✓	✓		✓			
Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>							✓	
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	✓			✓		✓	✓	
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	✓		✓					
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>					H	✓		
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	✓							
Short-toed Treecreeper	<i>Certhia brachydactyla</i>							✓	
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓							✓
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>			✓	✓				
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>			✓	✓				
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	✓		✓					✓
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>					✓			
Red-throated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>	✓							
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	✓	✓	✓					
Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>					✓			
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Other vertebrates

		November 2024							
Common name	Latin name	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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Mammals									
Egyptian Fruit Bat	<i>Rousettus aegyptiacus</i>				✓				
Common Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>				✓				
Cyprus Red Fox •	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i> subsp. <i>indutus</i>							✓	
Cyprus Mouflon ‡	<i>Ovis gmelini</i> subsp. <i>ophion</i>							✓	
Reptiles									
Starred Agama •	<i>Stellagama stellio</i> subsp. <i>cypriaca</i>		✓	✓	✓				
Kotschy's Gecko •	<i>Cyrtopodion kotschyi</i> subsp. <i>fitzingeri</i>				✓				

		November 2024							
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Snake-eyed Lizard •	<i>Ophisops elegans</i> subsp. <i>schlueteri</i>				✓		✓		
Schreiber's Spiny-footed Lizard •	<i>Acanthodactylus schreiberi</i> subsp. <i>schreiberi</i>		✓						
Troodos Wall Lizard •	<i>Phoenicolacerta troodica</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Budak's Snake-eyed Skink	<i>Ablepharus budaki</i> subsp. <i>budaki</i>			•	✓	•	•	•	•
Amphibians									
Cyprus Water Frog •	<i>Pelophylax cypriensis</i>			✓					
Fish									
Western Mosquito Fish	<i>Gambusia affinis</i>						✓		

Invertebrates

		November 2024							
Common name	Latin name	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Butterflies									
Hesperiidae									
Pygmy Skipper	<i>Gegenes pumilio</i>			✓					
Pieridae									
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>		✓		✓		✓		
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Lycaenidae									
African Grass Blue	<i>Zizeeria knysna</i>		✓						
Lang's Short-tailed Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>							✓	
Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>				✓				
Nymphalidae									
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>				✓			✓	
Moths									
Hummingbird Hawkmoth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>			✓		✓	✓		
Eastern Pine Processionary Moth	<i>Thaumetopoea wilkinsoni</i>							✓	
A Bagworm	<i>Pachythelia villosella</i>		✓					•	
Crimson Speckled	<i>Utetheisa pulchella</i>				✓			•	
Dragonflies									
Migrant Hawker	<i>Aeshna mixta</i>			✓					
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>				✓	✓			
Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>	✓	✓	✓					
Grasshoppers and Mantids									
Scarlet Band-winged Grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda miniata</i>						✓	✓	✓
Other Insects									
Oriental Hornet	<i>Vespa orientalis</i>		✓	✓	✓				✓
Brown-banded Cockroach	<i>Supella longipalpa</i>							✓	✓
Pistacia gall aphid	<i>Baizongia pistaciae</i>			✓	✓			✓	

Common name	Latin name	November 2024							
		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Crustaceans									
Levantine Freshwater Crab	<i>Potamon potamios</i>						✓		
Miscellaneous									
A Pill Millipede	<i>Typhloglomeris martensi</i>				✓				