

The Canaries - La Palma in Spring

Naturetrek Tour Report

13th – 20th March 2025



Canary Blue



Golden Houseleek



African Blue Tit (endemic La Palma subspecies)



La Palma Lizard

Tour report by Jessica Turner
Photos by Marcus Ward and Alison Playle



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Summary

La Palma is a fascinating island, with a great diversity of habitat and species. We were extremely fortunate to experience the best of the island and its wildlife. The weather was unsettled; the only times the sea was calm were Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, and we were able to use both time slots for our boat trips on the *Fancy II*, being rewarded with great views of Cory's Shearwaters, Common and Bottlenose Dolphins, and Short-finned Pilot Whales. Laurel Pigeons showed well in the laurel forest, Canary Islands Chiffchaffs were everywhere, and we got to grips with the diversity of the flora, such as the impressive La Palma and El Hierro Sow-thistles, and bushes of Canary St. John's-wort. La Palma Lizards provided entertainment, demonstrating their appetite for banana, and Tenerife Geckos showed contrast between 'wild' and 'hotel' locations. The views above the clouds from the top of the island were stunning. With good company and a comfortable hotel, everything contributed to an excellent week. Jessica and Marcus would like to thank the group for their enthusiasm and spotting skills: we hope to meet you again!

Day 1

Thursday 13th March

Fly La Palma – local walk

Eleven of the group members met Jessica and Marcus at Gatwick North Terminal for our 10.45am Tui flight to La Palma. We were delayed taking off, but the flight was smooth, with views of Mount Teide on Tenerife rising above the clouds as we approached La Palma. We landed at about 3.45pm on a bright and warm afternoon. We collected the minibuses and made the short journey to our hotel, the H10 Taburiente Playa, our base for the week. Here we met with the other three group members who had arrived on an earlier flight from Manchester.

We met again at 6.00pm for a gentle stroll along the promenade path by the hotel. A pair of Common Kestrels (west Canary subspecies *canariensis*) were flying round, sometimes perching on the hotel, and at least one distant Common Buzzard (Canary Island subspecies *insularum*) was over the ridge. There were a few Yellow-legged Gulls (subspecies *atlantis*, also known as Azores Gull), and far out to sea were Cory's Shearwaters, barely visible even through binoculars. While the usual wind direction is north-easterly, the current airflow was from the west, meaning the east side was unusually sheltered and calm. Closer to hand, a Eurasian Blackcap (subspecies *heineken* of the Macaronesian islands, NW Africa and SW Iberia) was singing. We started to look at the plants too, seeing Canary Dock (*Rumex lunaria*), Canary Tamarisk (*Tamarix canariensis*), Canary Islands Candle Plant (*Kleinia neriifolia* in the Dandelion family) and Balsam Spurge (*Euphorbia balsamifera*), all bushes. Two plants sharing the name Canary Samphire were flowering: *Schizogyne sericea* with thin grey leaves, and the yellow 'umbellifer' *Astydamia latifolia*, with succulent leaves, together with Dwarf Sea-lavender (*Limonium pectinatum*), a Sea-heath (*Frankenia ericifolia* subsp. *latifolia*) and the daisy-bush *Argyranthemum frutescens* subsp. *succulentum*.

At 7.00pm we met for a briefing on the week before a tasty buffet dinner, after which we were all very ready for our beds.

Day 2

Friday 14th March

Cubo de La Galga – Mirador San de Bartolo

We woke to a fine morning and could see Tenerife in the early dawn light. Our destination today was the *laurisilva*, the laurel forest which coats the north-east and northern slopes of the island. This is a temperate cloud forest, and La Palma has some of the most extensive remnants. After a good breakfast, we left at 8.30am, and drove north past the steep cliffs and ravines of this part of the island. Los Tilos was still closed due to the landslide in December 2023 (a road tunnel is being constructed) so we spent the whole morning in Cubo de La Galga.

There was still space in the car park, and as we gathered, we started to look at the plants of this habitat. These included Azores Laurel (*Laurus novocanariensis*), Canary Strawberry Tree (*Arbutus canariensis*), Canary Tree Heath (*Erica canariensis*), the succulent rosettes of a Tree Aeonium (*Aeonium arboreum* subsp. *holochrysum*), Hare's-foot Fern (*Davallia canariensis*, its rhizome like a paw) and the dramatic La Palma Sow-thistle (*Sonchus palmensis*). Canary Islands Chiffchaffs were abundant and Blackcap was seen and heard.

The edge of the path was lined with plants including the pink, daisy-like La Palma Cineraria (*Pericallis papyracea*), Devilweed (*Ageratina adenophora*, with larger white flowers), Mistflower (*A. riparia*, a smaller plant with white 'bobbly' flowers) and Small-leaved Spiderwort (*Tradescantia fluminensis*), the last three naturalised, alien species. Common Buzzards circled high overhead, and our first Laurel Pigeon gave great views as it flew over the slope, its dark, reddish body contrasting nicely with the white tail. We later saw two feeding at the top of a nearby tree, giving some great views. Sadly, Bolle's Pigeons were less cooperative today, with just one being glimpsed by one group member.

During the walk, we looked at the other *laurisilva* tree species: Canary Laurel (*Persea barbujuana*), with its characteristic galls caused by the mite *Aceria barbujuanae*, *Persea indica*, whose old leaves turn red, and Stinkwood (*Ocotea foetens*) with the two glands at the base of each leaf. Other plants included the La Palma endemic Giant Crambe (*Crambe santosii*), enormous strands of Canary Ivy (*Hedera canariensis*) and Canary Smilax (*Smilax canariensis*) hanging from the trees, and the delightful, orange Canary Bellflower (*Canarina canariensis*). On the very shaded and damper cliffs were a good number of ferns, including Chain Fern (*Woodwardia radicans*) with its enormous fronds and Kidney-leaved Fern (*Adiantum reniforme*), both Macaronesian endemics, and Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum capillus-veneris*). Goldcrest (La Palma and El Hierro subspecies *ellenthereae*) was heard but not seen well, while Common Blackbird (Canary Islands subspecies *cabrerae*) was more obvious. The La Palma subspecies of Canary Islands Large White, Canary Speckled Wood and (Common) Red Admiral butterflies were seen, as well as a high-flying La Palma Brimstone. By the minibuses on our return, we had some lovely views of Canary Islands Chaffinch, showing its slaty blue-grey back and pale peach and white underparts. This species has only recently been separated from Eurasian Chaffinch, and each island has its own, distinct subspecies, *palmae* being paler underneath, and almost white on the belly.

We drove a short distance to the Mirador de San Bartolomé for our picnic, enjoying a delicious selection of local produce, including local wine with Choughs on the label, and accompanied by many La Palma Lizards. The immature and females are striped, but the large mature males are dark grey with magnificent blue throats, and all have a taste for banana! As we arrived, a Barbary Falcon (subspecies *peregrinoides* of Peregrine Falcon) was circling over the ravine below, Red-billed Choughs (subspecies *barbarus* of La Palma and northern Africa) flew over, and we also saw Kestrel, Buzzard and a couple more Laurel Pigeons. Plants around here included *Globularia salicina*,

Canary Island Sage (*Salvia canariensis*), Lamarck's Spurge (*Euphorbia lamarckii*) and the bush form of Madder (*Rubia fruticosa*) with almost transparent white berries. A Painted Lady butterfly spent a long time actively and persistently pursuing a Red Admiral.

We returned to the hotel with some time for rest and relaxation. Some of the group walked round behind the hotel, seeing a Common Sandpiper and many East Atlantic Sally Lightfoot crabs on the rocky outcrops in the sea. We met at 6.30pm to discuss the day, before another buffet dinner with plenty of choices. Afterwards, we noted several Tenerife Geckos on the walls and ceiling of the hotel porch.

Day 3

Saturday 15th March

La Cumbrecita – central plains – Mirador de Tajogaite – boat trip

It was another beautiful dawn, and after breakfast, with picnic on board, we left at 8.30am. Our first destination was at the Mirador La Cumbrecita, on the southern rim of the caldera, where we had parking spaces booked for 9.30am. We made good time and duly arrived at the barrier at about 9.15am, taking the steep and winding road up through Canary Pine (*Pinus canariensis*) forest. These trees have very long needles and the capacity to regenerate from the trunk after fire; we could see that this had happened and most trees had bark scorched by pyroclastic flows from the 2021 volcanic eruption. It was beautifully clear at the caldera, where we were greeted by Northern Ravens (subspecies *canariensis*), and Choughs flew overhead. We walked to the viewpoint through the pines, with a sparse understorey of mainly Canary Cistus (*Cistus symphytifolius*); we saw a couple of bright pink flowers. When we left, both the clouds and the crowds were growing, and we could understand why timed parking was necessary. As we descended, we paused by a beautiful bush of La Palma Bugloss (*Echium webbii*) with blue spikes of flowers.

We dropped down to the Taburiente Visitor Centre, where we spent a pleasant hour in the sunny, sheltered botanic gardens. As we arrived, a pair of Common Linnets (west Canary subspecies *meadewaldoi*) showed well, the male singing his heart out, and we also had lovely views of Atlantic Canaries. Choughs were displaying on the roof, and another pair was feeding young under the eaves. Canary Islands Large White, Small White, Clouded Yellow and a pair of Canary Blue butterflies were seen, as well as Canary Bumble Bee, now recognised as a subspecies of Buff-tailed Bumble Bee. We were able to appreciate the diversity of plant species, mainly set out according to ecosystems, as well as some of the unofficial 'weeds' such as Field Marigold (*Calendula arvensis*).

We drove the short distance to the little church of La Virgen del Pino, near which we had our picnic. We watched Canary Island Chiffchaffs, with a large flock of Plain Swifts overhead, as well as plenty of Choughs. Insect life here included a Small Copper butterfly, an Oil Beetle *Eumeloe tuccia*, and a La Palma Darkling Beetle. The old fields were bright with Purple Viper's-bugloss (*Echium plantagineum*), Hoary Mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*) and bushes of La Palma Tagasaste (*Chamaecytisus proliferus* subsp. *palmensis*), a leafy white-flowered broom used as animal fodder. An African Blue Tit (La Palma subspecies *palmæ*) was glimpsed but not relocated.

Moving on, we had time to stop at the Mirador Tajogaite, the viewpoint for the 2021 volcanic eruption, where the road was covered by several metres of lava. It was dramatic, and we felt for those who lived nearby, both those who were spared, and those whose properties had been destroyed by a wall of fire and moving rock. It was interesting to see how plants were starting to recolonise the areas under ash (not the lava flow), with El Hierro

Sow-thistle (*Sonchus hierrensis*) and Canary Dock (*Rumex lunaria*) being abundant. Another African (La Palma) Blue Tit was seen briefly by some.

We arrived at the harbour of Puerto de Tazacorte in good time for our 3.30pm sailing, the first of two four-hour boat trips on the Fancy II. The island had been having a period of unsettled weather and storms, so the only possible days for boat trips during our week were Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning; on all the other days there was too much swell. It was sunny and the sea was calming down as we set off, although there were still rolling waves. We soon started seeing Cory's Shearwaters flying, and some on the water; during the trip we had some superb views and also saw a much smaller Manx Shearwater (possibly en route to the UK). Mammals proved hard to locate today, but we eventually found a pod of maybe ten (Short-beaked) Common Dolphins and were able to watch them bow-riding and swimming near the boat. Despite the name, they are not particularly common off La Palma, and it was great to see them, showing their distinctive white side panels. We also saw a number of Portuguese Men o' War, not true jellyfish but colonial Siphonophores: many tiny organisms working together to create an individual. As we returned to the harbour, many Cory's Shearwaters were gathering towards the shore, ready to fly inland after dark to nests in cliffs and under rocks and bushes.

The sun was low in the sky as we entered the harbour. Most of the group then walked round to the port, while the leaders collected the vehicles. We had dinner at the Kiosko Montecarlo, the last in a line of restaurants along the promenade. Our table was outside and the breeze was quite chilly, but we could hear the sea as we ate fish, chicken or other dishes, followed by ice cream under the stars. We arrived back at the hotel at about 10.30pm, after a long but fascinating day.

Day 4

Sunday 16th March

Mirador de Cumbre – boat trip – Barranco de las Angustias

It was another beautiful morning and, with a 9.15am start, Marcus led a short wander round the hotel environs after an early breakfast. Good views were enjoyed of Sardinian Warbler, while African Grass Blue butterfly, and Hawaiian Beet Webworm and Yellow-underwing Pearl micromoths were seen. Two couples opted for a day off, while the rest of us set off to travel again across the centre of the island to Tazacorte, for our second boat trip. As we climbed the central ridge, we stopped at the Mirador de Cumbre, where we looked at the beautiful views, as well as Wax Myrtle (*Myrica faya*) and Canary Tree Heather (*Erica canariensis*), characteristic of the edge of laurel forest. Canaries and Canary Island Chiffchaffs were singing, and a Laurel Pigeon was glimpsed as it flew below.

When we arrived in the harbour, we made picnic lunches before boarding the Fancy II. This morning the sea was much calmer, and almost oily in appearance. We had not been sailing long when Juan Carlos, our skipper shouted 'turtle!', but only one group member saw the head before it dived and did not reappear. It was a Loggerhead, the commoner turtle in these waters, but when they dive deep, they can be gone for a long time. Again today, we saw many Cory's Shearwaters, both in flight and sitting in groups on the sea. We usually approached these flocks as they are often indicative of dolphin presence, and so it proved. After about half an hour, we encountered a pod of about ten Bottlenose Dolphins, which spent a long time around the boat, twisting and looking up, as well as bow-riding. We also saw a couple of tail slaps and one individual spy hopping, holding itself in a vertical position while looking around. We had wonderful views of them above and below the water. After about fifteen minutes, we left them; our next encounter was with a small group of Common Dolphins, maybe four animals. Again, we had

excellent views. There was a quieter period, during which we ate our sandwiches, but then more activity was found with a pod of about twenty Short-finned Pilot Whales, which were joined by similar numbers of Bottlenose Dolphins. We were able to distinguish the differences in fin appearance, as well as head shape and colour as these wonderful animals gently loafed about. Some were females with calves by their sides: calves stay for about three years, as they learn to hunt. We were thrilled by these beautiful animals, and eventually made our way back to harbour delighted by an excellent trip.

We then moved on to explore a different terrestrial habitat, carefully negotiating the steep and winding road to the bottom of the Barranco de Las Angustias, the enormous ravine that comes from the south-west side of the caldera, with dramatic views up to the top. Here we found Barbary Spurge Hawk-moth caterpillars (La Palma subspecies) on Lamarck's Spurge (*Euphorbia lamarckii*): they only eat the bitter spurge, not the sweet one. We looked at Small-flowered Silk-vine (*Periploca laevigata*), with its strange flowers and dramatic seed-pods and Fountain Grass (*Cenchrus* [formerly *Pennisetum*] *setaceus*). On the rocks we found Canary Islands Alison (*Lobularia canariensis*) and the La Palma subspecies of Canary Islands Lavender (*Lavandula canariensis* subsp. *palmensis*). Large, fleshy Aeonium rosettes were La Palma Canary Houseleek (*Aeonium canariense* subsp. *christii*), and there were a couple of rosettes of *Aeonium diplocyclum*, bearing yellow flowers. The geology showed dramatic evidence of volcanic and erosive activity. Returning to the minibuses, one client who had remained in the van reported three turquoise birds flying past, which could only have been European Rollers, a rare passage migrant.

We arrived back at the hotel at 5.30pm, meeting as usual to update our lists. Those who had stayed behind had visited Santa Cruz (on foot and by bus, both straightforward) and as well as the interesting architecture of the old city, had enjoyed a St. Patrick's Day parade in honour of Dionisio O'Daly, who brought democracy to the city in 1773. After dinner, we looked again at the Tenerife Geckos, watching them snack on small moths.

Day 5

Monday 17th March

The north side of the caldera

Today our route was on the LP-4 to the highest point on the island: Roque de los Muchachos, at 2426m above sea level. We took the road above Santa Cruz, turning on to the LP-4 and almost immediately starting a long series of hairpin bends. There was rather more cloud this morning, but it was still sunny. We made three stops along the road as we climbed. The first was in the *laurisilva* fringe zone, again with Canary Tree Heather and Wax Myrtle, where we looked at Canary Islands Holly (*Ilex canariensis*), Tropical Tent Web Spiders and Canary Flower Bee among other species. Yellow *Genista stenopetala* subsp. *sericea* was coming into flower and a Buzzard circled overhead.

Moving on, the lush *laurisilva* and Tree Heather gave way to Canary Pines, where the sparse understorey included Canary Cistus (*Cistus symphytifolius*). This was gradually replaced by La Palma Sticky Broom (*Adenocarpus viscosus* subsp. *spartioides*). The mist and cloud cleared into bright blue sky and sunshine. We stopped by the access to the Puntellana Refuge, where we had good views of Goldcrests and Plain Swifts flew overhead. A yellow cress here was the La Palma Flixweed (*Descurania gilva*). We cleared the tree line, admiring the amazing geology and the different coloured minerals. We passed white-flowered Mountain Rock-cress (*Arabis caucasica*) and the low scrubby vegetation was a mixture of the La Palma Sticky Broom, Teide White Broom (*Cytisus supranubius*) and the silvery-looking *Genista benehoavensis*, all of which flower later in the year. We stopped at the 'sunrise stop' layby with

dramatic yellow-orange rocks and sand which was blowing about, where a Raven joined us, obviously expecting food. There was snow lying at the edge of the road, from about ten days earlier.

We turned on to the access road to the Roque, passing the various international telescopes and observatories for which La Palma is famous, and stopped in the bus area. It was very windy and quite cold: about 5°C plus the wind chill. From the viewpoint, we had views over the clouds down the spine of the island and relatively cloudless ones down into the caldera below. Choughs were enjoying the wind. Plants were those adapted to this habitat: the endemics *Echium thyriflorum*, which will have dark blue flowers, Taburiente Bugloss (*E. perezii*) with big tufted rosettes of leaves and dead loofah-like flower spikes which would have been pink, small bushy *Plantago webbii*, the Ragwort-like *Bethencourtii palmensis*, and purple clumps of Canary Island Wallflower *Erysimum scoparium*, the first three growing only on La Palma, the others also on Mount Teide in Tenerife. Clouded Yellow and Small White butterflies were seen.

We dropped down beyond the summit for our picnic, where it was beautifully warm and sunny, sheltered from the wind. The La Palma subspecies of African Blue Tit was at last seen better here. We then returned up to the visitor centre, where we spent nearly an hour learning about the telescopes and the night sky. In the grounds we saw Berthelot's Pipit and also La Palma Pansy (*Viola palmensis*). We retraced our route, stopping again at the sunrise layby to enjoy the geology and take group photos, before setting off back down all the hairpin bends, watching the vegetation change as we descended and passed again through the cloud layer. Back at sea level, it was bright rather than sunny, and 20°C.

We arrived at the hotel at 5.30pm, with time to relax before meeting to update our lists at 7.00pm, followed by dinner and visits to the geckos. We agreed it had been an excellent day with stunningly beautiful scenery.

Day 6

Tuesday 18th March

Juan Mayor

It was another fine morning, and Marcus led a local walk, reporting the usual species of birds, and several moths including the La Palma endemic *Scopula guancharia illustris*. After breakfast, we set off at 9.00am, seeing a Little Egret in flight, and drove the short distance to the Barranco Juan Mayor, which rises into the forest above Santa Cruz. The first part is a narrow road which becomes a track as it climbs beyond the smallholdings. We parked on the verge and made picnic lunches to carry with us, listening to Canary Island Chiffchaffs, Blackbirds, Blackcaps and Canaries in song. A female Canary Blue gave good views, and small La Palma Lizards were in the wall, while several goats with fine twisted horns were tethered in the ditch, making a good job of clearing all the vegetation.

It was a good morning for butterflies in the warm sun, with large numbers of the La Palma Canary Islands Large Whites and Small Whites, La Palma Brimstones generally flying up the slopes, plenty of Canary Speckled Woods and both Common and Canary Red Admiral. We were able to have good views of the latter, and could appreciate the differences between the two species. Red-billed Choughs flew overhead and there were at least two pairs of Kestrels: at one point two birds were literally locked together, claw to claw, plummeting down accompanied by much screeching, before separating, one going into a palm tree and the other flying off.

The verges were colourful with Garden Nasturtiums (*Tropaeolus majus*), Tangier Pea (*Lathyrus tingitanus*), Morning Glory (*Ipomoea indica*), Common and Long-headed Poppies (*Papaver rhoeas* and *P. dubium*). An unusual plant was Gold Purse (*Calceolaria tripartita*), native to Central and South America, but not common on La Palma. Other pea flowers included party-coloured *Lathyrus chymenun*, white *L. articulatus*, red *L. sphaericus* and yellow *L. annuus*. Some very robust stems of Bean Broomrape (*Orobanche crenata*) were growing amongst Pitch Trefoil (*Bituminaria bituminosa*) and Nasturtiums. This species usually parasitises members of the pea family, maybe Pitch Trefoil but recent research describes newly discovered hosts, including Nasturtium. The walls held Hare's-foot Fern (*Davallia canariensis*), *Aichryson laxum*, and flowering *Aeonium davidbramwellii*, and there were plenty of Tropical Tent Web Spiders. Behind, on the steep slopes were the Canary Tree Heather, La Palma Sow-thistle and Laurisilva species.

The paved road became a dirt track as we continued to climb slowly, seeing bushes of the menthol-fragranced *Bystropogon canariensis*, clumps of Oregano (*Origanum vulgare*) and the daisy-like Mexican Fleabane (*Erigeron karvinskianus*), a plant of Canary Twayblade (*Habernaria tridactylites*), with a dead seed spike at this time of year, and Canary Island Holly (*Ilex canariensis*) with berries. The path bent and climbed towards a water tank, and we were delighted to find spikes of Small-flowered Tongue-orchid (*Serapias parviflora*), a species common in the Mediterranean but new to Jessica from any of the Canary Islands. At the tank, many Canary Island Chiffchaffs were flycatching over the water, perching just in front of us. We could hear a pigeon, and sure enough a Laurel Pigeon flew overhead. As we walked down, we added a female Blue Emperor dragonfly, Small Copper and the endemic Canary Skipper to our lists. Back at the minibuses, we rehydrated and enjoyed some snacks.

We then visited the nearby Mirador de la Concepcion, where the views were amazing. A close raptor turned out to be a Booted Eagle on migration, at one point mobbed by Kestrels. A Tenerife Gecko was sunning itself on a wall, matching the lava block and much darker than those in the hotel porch, while La Palma Lizards enjoyed banana. Butterflies included Painted Lady and both species of Red Admiral, while plants included white *Echium brevirame* and hybrids with the blue La Palma Bugloss (*E. nebbii*), showing intermediate characteristics but a mixture of pink and blue flowers.

We returned to the hotel at about 4.30pm, where some of the group took a swim in the pool or in the sea. We met again at 6.45pm to update our lists, before dinner.

Day 7

Wednesday 19th March

Las Salinas de Fuencaliente – Dragos Gemelos

This morning there was a different feel to the weather, with more cloud, although it was initially fine as Marcus started his 8.00am bird walk. This morning, we headed to the southern tip of La Palma, knowing that the forecast was for wind and rain. We left at 9.00am, following a Google Maps route which took us up some very steep, narrow roads through banana plantations to join the main road south. As we emerged from the shelter of the central spine of the island, we could feel the wind. From Los Canarios, the road dropped steadily to sea level at the lighthouse, and we arrived in heavy rain. However, it was only a shower, and within ten minutes the weather was sunny and blustery. Suitably attired for the conditions, we first watched Cory's Shearwaters out to sea. We then walked towards the salt pans, noting first the plants which we had seen near the hotel: both species named Canary Samphire (the grey, thin-leaved *Schizogyne sericea* and the yellow 'Umbellifer' *Astyadama latifolia*), Dwarf Sea-lavender (*Limonium pectinatum*) and the Sea-heath *Frankenia ericifolia* subsp. *latifolia*. A Berthelot's Pipit flew from

under a bush and later, we had excellent views of this species, at close quarters. On the highest saltpan, which has freshest water and algal growth, we saw seven Ruddy Turnstones, a Common Sandpiper and a Common Ringed Plover, as well as Berthelot's Pipits. A La Palma Lizard was drinking from the rain which had collected in pores in the lava, soon joined by two others, but the first chased off one of the rivals from 'his' puddle.

We wandered in a circular route past the other pans and down to the sea, enjoying watching the waves crashing on the rocks, we being sheltered by the headland. We moved on to the café for morning coffee (it was a bit more exposed here) and then returned to the higher salt pans. This time we found a Grey Plover and a Little Stint, as well as the Common Sandpiper, and had lovely views of the Ringed Plover.

We left at about 12.15pm, discovering as we drove up that Los Canarios was now in cloud. Our picnic site (a viewpoint with no view!) was covered and fairly sheltered, although not warm (about 14°C), but we enjoyed another excellent picnic and took seriously the 'everything must go' policy of the final day. The cloud was even thicker as we descended, and heavy rain started, so we abandoned any plan to visit the Volcano Visitor Centre (the volcano was closed, anyway, due to the weather), and drove cautiously back up the coast. As we reached the middle of the island, the weather seemed brighter, and we diverted to look at the Dragos Gemelos, a pair of intertwined Dragon Trees (*Dracaena draco*), believed to be about 250 years old. The rain was light but persistent here, and we spent about ten minutes looking at the ancient bark and twisted aerial roots that had bound to the trunk. Several plants, including Hare's-foot Fern and Smooth Sow-thistle, were growing epiphytically. A new bird here was Spanish Sparrow.

The rain eased shortly after we arrived back at the hotel at 3.15pm, and the rest of the afternoon, which was bright, was spent at leisure, although the rain restarted and continued through the evening. We met under cover at the pool bar to update our lists, before a final dinner together.

Day 8

Thursday 20th March

Cubo de La Galga – journeys home

It rained overnight and was still showery first thing, although there was bright sun by about 9.30am. Jessica took those on the Manchester flight down to the airport in time for check in for their 11.40am flight. Six of the others went with Marcus, departing at 8.30am, to revisit the laurel forest in search of Bolle's Pigeons. Back at the hotel by midday, they reported sightings of at least two Bolle's Pigeons in flight, and a number of sightings of Laurel Pigeon, but probably two or three birds being active. They also saw them perched, with much better views than previously. Other birds included Canary Islands Chaffinch, a flock of about fifty Plain Swifts, La Palma African Blue Tit, and Common Buzzard in a tussle with Eurasian Sparrowhawk (of the Macaronesian subspecies *granti*). La Palma Canary Islands Large White and La Palma Brimstone were among the butterflies. The keen ones went out yet again, reporting Monarch and fighting male African Grass Blue butterflies, Canary Flower Bee and a male Blue Emperor dragonfly. Other group members stayed around the hotel, some enjoying the morning sun.

We regrouped ready for our departure at 1.50pm, and made the short journey down to the airport. Check-in was quite efficient, and there was a chance to enjoy the last of the sun on the outdoor terrace. Our flight took off on time and, aided by a tail wind, we landed at Gatwick ahead of schedule. We went our separate ways, with many memories of an excellent week in La Palma.

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Species lists

Birds (H = Heard only)

E=Canary Islands endemic, ES=Canary Islands endemic subspecies, LPE=La Palma endemic subspecies, N=near-endemic, I=introduced		March 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Plain Swift - N	<i>Apus unicolor</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>					✓			
Feral Pigeon - I	<i>Columba livia feral</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bolle's Pigeon - E	<i>Columba bollii</i>		✓						✓
Laurel Pigeon - E	<i>Columba junoniae</i>		✓		✓		✓		✓
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>							✓	
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>							✓	
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>							✓	
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>							✓	
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		✓					✓	
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>							✓	
Yellow-legged Gull (Azores Gull) - N	<i>Larus michahellis atlantis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i>			✓					
Cory's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris borealis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>			✓					
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>				✓				
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>						✓		
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pinnatus</i>						✓		
Eurasian Sparrowhawk - ES	<i>Accipiter nisus granti</i>								✓
Common Buzzard - ES	<i>Buteo buteo insularum</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓
European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>				✓				
Common Kestrel - ES	<i>Falco tinnunculus canariensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Peregrine Falcon (Barbary Falcon)	<i>Falco peregrinus pelegrinoides</i>		✓						
Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax barbarus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Northern Raven - ES	<i>Corvus corax canariensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
African Blue Tit - LPE	<i>Cyanistes teneriffae palmensis</i>		✓	✓		✓			✓
Canary Islands Chiffchaff - E	<i>Phylloscopus canariensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla heikenen</i>	H	H	✓	H		✓	H	✓
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Goldcrest - ES	<i>Regulus regulus ellenthalerae</i>		✓	✓		✓			H
Common Blackbird - N	<i>Turdus merula cabrerae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>						✓		
Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>							✓	
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>			✓	✓				
Berthelot's Pipit -N	<i>Anthus berthelotii berthelotii</i>					✓		✓	
Canary Islands Chaffinch - LPE	<i>Fringilla canariensis palmae</i>		✓	✓	H	✓	✓		✓
Common Linnet - ES	<i>Linaria cannabina meadowaldoi</i>			✓					
Atlantic Canary - N	<i>Serinus canaria</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Mammals

D = dead		March 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>						✓	✓	
Brown Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>				D		D		
House Mouse	<i>Mus musculus</i>							✓	
Short-finned Pilot Whale	<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>				✓				
Common Bottlenose Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>				✓				
Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>			✓	✓				
a dolphin	Delphinidae sp.		✓						

Reptiles

E = endemic		March 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
La Palma Lizard - E	<i>Gallotia galloti palmae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Tenerife Gecko - E	<i>Tarentola delalandii</i>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Loggerhead Turtle	<i>Caretta caretta</i>				✓				

Fishes

		March 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Thick-lipped Grey Mullet	<i>Chelon labrosus</i>			✓	✓				
a bream				✓	✓				
a wrasse				✓					

Butterflies

E = endemic, N = near-endemic		March 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Canary Islands Large White - E	<i>Pieris cheiranthi benchoavensis</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colius crocea</i>			✓		✓	✓		
La Palma Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx palmae</i>		✓				✓		✓
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>			✓			✓		
Canary Blue	<i>Cyclurius webbianus</i>			✓			✓		
African Grass Blue	<i>Zizeeria knysna</i>				✓				✓
Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>								✓
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓				✓		
Canary Red Admiral - N	<i>Vanessa vulcania</i>					✓	✓		
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>		✓				✓		✓
Canary Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge xiphioides</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Canary Skipper	<i>Thymelicus christi</i>						✓		

Moths

E = endemic, N = near-endemic, L=larva		March 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Hawaian Beet Webworm	<i>Spoladea recurvalis</i>				✓				✓
Yellow Underwing Pearl	<i>Uresiphita gilvata</i>				✓			✓	✓
Brown Triangle Snout	<i>Hypena lividalis</i>				✓		✓		✓

E = endemic, N = near-endemic, L=larva		March 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Mint Moth	<i>Pyrausta aurata</i>				✓				
a wave - E	<i>Scopula guancharia illustris</i>				✓				
Double-striped Pug	<i>Gymnoscelis rufifasciata</i>				✓				
Barbary Spurge Hawk-moth	<i>Hyles tithymali phaelipae</i>				L				
European Pepper Moth	<i>Duponchelia fovealis</i>				✓				
Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>				✓				
Canary Island Pine Moth - N	<i>Calliteara fortunata</i>							L	

Other insects

		March 2025							
Common name	Scientific name	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Dragonflies									
Blue Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>						✓		✓
Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>						✓		
Grasshoppers and allies									
Southern Field Cricket	<i>Gryllus bimaculatus</i>			H	H				
La Palma Bush-cricket	<i>Calliphona palmensis</i>		✓						
Blue-winged Grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda canariensis</i>						✓		
a red-winged grasshopper	<i>Acrotylus insubricus</i>					✓	✓		
American Cockroach	<i>Periplaneta americana</i>			✓					
Scale insects									
Coccineal Scale Insect	<i>Dactylopius coccus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Flies									
Common Drone-fly	<i>Eristalis tenax</i>						✓		
a hoverfly (red abdomen)	<i>Copestylum melleum</i>						✓		
a hoverfly (red & black abdomen)	<i>Chrysotoxum triacutum</i>					✓			
Common Globetail (hoverfly)	<i>Sphaerophoria scripta</i>			✓			✓		
Wasps and bees									
a wasp cf German Wasp	cf. <i>Vespa germanica</i>		✓						
Toothed Tiger Ichneumon	<i>Amblyteles armatorius</i>						✓		
a spider-hunting wasp sp.	Pompilidae sp.					✓			
a mason bee	<i>Osmia</i> sp.			✓					
a bee	Apidae sp.		✓	✓					
a long-horn bee	<i>Eucera gracilipes</i>					✓			
Canary Bumble Bee	<i>Bombus terrestris canariensis</i>			✓			✓		
Canary Flower Bee	<i>Anthophora alluaudi</i>					✓	✓		✓
Honey Bee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Beetles									
Pollen Chafer	<i>Oxythyrea funesta</i>						✓		
Seven-spot Ladybird	<i>Coccinella 7-punctata algerica</i>			✓					
a small ladybird	<i>Coccinella miranda</i>					✓			
La Palma Darkling Beetle	<i>Pimelia laevigata laevigata</i>			✓					
an oil beetle	<i>Eumeloe tuccia</i>			✓					

Other invertebrates

Common name	Scientific name	March 2025							
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Millipedes									
a millipede	Diplopoda sp.			✓			✓	✓	
Spiders									
Tropical Tent Web Spider	<i>Cyrtophora citricola</i>					✓	✓		
Crab Spider	<i>Misumera spinifera</i>				✓				
Molluscs									
a limpet	Gastropoda sp.		✓						
Crustaceans									
cf Tidal Spray Crab	<i>Plagusia depressa</i>		✓						
East Atlantic Sally Lightfoot Crab	<i>Grapsus adscensionis</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
a crab	a decapod			✓					
a barnacle	Cirripedia sp.		✓						
Hydrozoans									
Portuguese Man o' War	<i>Physalia physalis</i>			✓	✓				

Fungi

Scientific name	Common name	Day	Location
<i>Auricularia auricula-judae</i>	Jelly-ear	2	Cubo de La Galga
cf <i>Phaeotremella foliacea</i>	Leafy Brain	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Schizophyllum commune</i>	Splitgill	3	Round hotel
<i>Ganoderma</i> sp.		2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>sp. incertis</i>	Zombie Fungus	8	Cubo de La Galga (on spider sp)

Lichens

Scientific name	Common name	Day	Location
<i>Usnea</i> sp.	a beard lichen	5	Pine trees

Plants

LPE = La Palma endemic, CE = Canary Islands endemic, N = Atlantic Islands endemic, [] = introduced or planted			
Scientific name	Common name	Day	Location
PTERIDOPHYTES	FERNS & ALLIES		
Sellaginellaceae	Lesser Clubmoss Family		
<i>Selaginella denticulata</i>	Mediterranean Clubmoss	2	Cubo de La Galga
Equisetaceae	Horsetail Family		
<i>Equisetum ramosissimum</i>	Branched Horsetail	4	Barranco de las Angustias
Leptosporangiate Ferns	True Ferns		
Aspleniaceae	Spleenwort Family		
<i>Asplenium aethiopicum</i> subsp. <i>filare</i>	A Spleenwort	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Asplenium hemionitis</i> - N	Mule's fern	2	Cubo de La Galga
Blechnaceae	Hard Fern Family		
<i>Woodwardia radicans</i> - N	Chain Fern	2	Cubo de La Galga
Davalliaceae	Hare's-foot Fern Family		
<i>Davallia canariensis</i> - N	Hare's-foot Fern	2	Cubo de La Galga / widespread
Dennstaedtiaceae	Bracken Family		
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	2	Roadsides, widespread

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Scientific name	Common name	Day	Location
Dryopteridaceae	Buckler-fern Family		
<i>Dryopteris ophioglossifolia</i>		2	Cubo de La Galga
Polypodiaceae	Polypody Family		
<i>Polypodium macaronesicum</i> - N	Macaronesian Polypody	6	Juan Mayor
Pteridaceae	Ribbon-fern Family		
<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair Fern	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Adiantum reniforme</i> - N	Kidney-leaved Fern	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Anogramma leptophyllum</i>	Jersey Fern	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Constantina vellea</i>		2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Hemionitis (Cheilanthes) marantae</i>		3	Walls, Central Plains
GYMNOSPERMS	CONIFERS		
Cupressaceae	Cypress Family		
<i>Juniperus cedrus</i> - N	Canary Island Juniper	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Juniperus turbinata</i>			
Pinaceae	Pine Family		
<i>Pinus canariensis</i> - CE	Canary Islands Pine	3	La Cumbrecita
ANGIOSPERMS	FLOWERING PLANTS		
Pre-Dicots	Primitive Angiosperms		
Lauraceae	Laurel Family		
<i>Laurus novocanariensis</i> - N	Azores Laurel	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Ocotea foetida</i> - N	Stinkwood	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Persea (Apollonia) barbuja</i> - N	Canary Laurel	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Persea indica</i> - N		2	Cubo de La Galga
Eu-Dicots	True Dicotyledons		
Amaranthaceae (Chenopodiaceae)	Goosefoot Family		
<i>Achyranthes aspera</i>	Devil's Coach-whip	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Bosea yervamora</i> - CE	Bosea	2	Mirador de San Bartolome
<i>Patellifolia procumbens</i> - N	-	1	Near hotel
Apiaceae	Carrot Family		
<i>Astydamia latifolia</i>	Canary Samphire	1	Near hotel
<i>Daucus carota</i> subsp. <i>maximus</i>	Wild Carrot	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Daucus (Cryptotaenia) elegans</i> - CE		4	Barranco de las Angustias
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel	2	Cubo de La Galga
Apocynaceae	Periwinkle Family		
<i>Periploca laevigata</i> - N	A Silk-vine	4	Barranco de las Angustias
<i>Vinca major</i>	Greater Periwinkle	6	Juan Mayor
Aquifoliaceae	Holly Family		
<i>Ilex canariensis</i> - CE	Canary Island Holly	6	Juan Mayor
Araliaceae	Ivy Family		
<i>Hedera canariensis</i> - CE	Canary Ivy	2	Cubo de La Galga
Asteraceae (Compositae)	Daisy Family		
<i>Ageratina adenophora</i>	-	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Ageratina riparia</i>		2	Cubo de La Galga / widespread
<i>Argyranthemum haouarytheum</i> - LPE	La Palma Daisy	5	Roque de los Muchachos
<i>Arg. frutescens</i> subsp. <i>succulentum</i> - CE	Paris Daisy	1	Round hotel
<i>Argyranthemum webbii</i> - LPE	-	2	Mirador de San Bartolome
<i>Artemisia thuscula</i> (<i>A. canariensis</i>) - CE	Canary Wormwood	2	Mirador de San Bartolome

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Scientific name	Common name	Day	Location
<i>Bethencourtia palmensis</i>	Bethencourtia	5	Roque de los Muchachos
<i>Bidens pilosa</i>	Bur Marigold / Beggarticks	4	Barranco de las Angustias
<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Field Marigold	3	Botanic Garden 'weed'
<i>Carlina falcata</i> - CE	Canary Carline Thistle	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Cotula australis</i>	a Buttonweed	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Erigeron karvinskianus</i>	Mexican Fleabane	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Galactites	5	First roadside stop LP-4
<i>Galinsoga quadriradiata</i>	Shaggy-soldier	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Kleinia neriifolia</i> - CE	Canary Islands Candle Plant	1	Round hotel
<i>Laphangium luteoalbum</i>	Jersey Cudweed	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Pericallis papyracea</i> - LPE	La Palma Cineraria	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Phagnalon saxatile</i>	A Phagnalon	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Reichardia tingitana</i>	-	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Schizogyne sericea</i> - N	Canary Samphire	1	Round hotel
<i>Senecio teneriffae</i>	-	3	Botanic Garden 'weed'
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly Sow-thistle	3	Botanic Garden 'weed'
<i>Sonchus hierrensis</i> - CE	El Hierro Sow-thistle	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Smooth Sow-thistle	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Sonchus palmensis</i> - LPE	La Palma Sow-thistle	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Urospermum picroides</i>	-	6	Juan Mayor
Boraginaceae	Borage Family		
<i>Echium brevirame</i> - LPE		4	Barranco de las Angustias
<i>Echium thyrsoiflorum</i> (gentianoides) - LPE		5	Roque de los Muchachos
<i>Echium perezii</i> - LPE	Taburiente/ Pink Bugloss	5	Roque de los Muchachos
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Viper's-bugloss	2	Mirador de San Bartolome
<i>Echium webbii</i> - LPE	La Palma Viper's-bugloss	3	La Cumbrecita
<i>Echium webbii</i> x <i>E. brevirame</i>	(<i>E. bond-spraguei</i>)	6	Mirador de la Concepcion
Brassicaceae	Cabbage Family		
<i>Arabis caucasica</i>	Mountain Rock-cress	3	La Cumbrecita
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's Purse	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Crambe santosii</i> - LPE	Giant Crambe	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Descurainia gilva</i> - LPE	La Palma Flixweed	5	Second roadside stop LP-4
<i>Erysimum scoparium</i> - CE	Canary Island Wallflower	5	Roque de los Muchachos
<i>Hirschfeldia incana</i>	Hoary Mustard	3	Central Plains / widespread
<i>Lobularia canariensis</i> - N	Canary Islands Alison	4	Barranco de las Angustias
Cactaceae	Cactus Family		
[<i>Opuntia dellinii</i>]	-	2	Mirador de San Bartolome
[<i>Opuntia maxima</i>]	a Prickly Pear	2	Mirador de San Bartolome
Calceolariaceae	Calceolaria Family		
<i>Calceolaria tripartita</i>	Annual Calceolaria	6	Juan Mayor
Campanulaceae	Bellflower Family		
<i>Canarina canariensis</i> - CE	Canary Bellflower	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Wahlenbergia lobelioides</i> (subsp. <i>lobelioides</i> - CE)		6	Mirador de la Concepcion
Caprifoliaceae	Honeysuckle Family		
<i>Valeriana rubra</i> (<i>Centranthus ruber</i>)	Red Valerian	2	Roadsides
Caryophyllaceae	Pink Family		
<i>Paronychia canariensis</i> - CE	-	3	Tajogaite viewpoint
<i>Petrorhagia nanteuilii</i>	A pink	6	Juan Mayor

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Scientific name	Common name	Day	Location
<i>Polycarpon tetraphyllum</i> subsp. <i>diphyllum</i>	Four-leaved Allseed	4	Barranco de las Angustias
<i>Silene gallica</i>	Small-flowered Catchfly	2	Mirador de San Bartolome
<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder Campion	6	Juan Mayor
Cistaceae	Cistus Family		
<i>Cistus monspeliensis</i>	Narrow-leaved Cistus	5	First roadside stop LP-4
<i>Cistus symphytifolius</i> - CE	Canary Cistus	3	La Cumbrecita
<i>Tuberia guttata</i>	Spotted Rock-rose	6	Juan Mayor
Commelinaceae	Spiderwort Family		
<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>	Small-leaf Spiderwort	2	Cubo de La Galga
Convolvulaceae	Bindweed Family		
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Bindweed	3	Central Plains
<i>Convolvulus floridus</i> - CE	Canary Tree Bindweed	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Cuscuta planiflora</i>	Small-seeded Dodder	3	La Cumbrecita
<i>Ipomoea indica</i>	Common Morning Glory	6	Juan Mayor
Crassulaceae	Stonecrop Family		
<i>Aeonium arboreum</i> subsp. <i>holochrysum</i> - CE	-	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Ae. canariense</i> subsp. <i>christii</i> - LPE	La Palma Canary Houseleek	4	Barranco de las Angustias
<i>Aeonium davidbramwellii</i> - LPE		6	Juan Mayor
<i>Aeonium diplocyclum</i>		4	Barranco de las Angustias
<i>Aeonium goochiae</i> - LPE		2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Aeonium spathulatum</i> - CE		6	Juan Mayor
<i>Aichryson laxum</i> - CE		6	Juan Mayor
<i>Umbilicus gaditanus</i>	-	2	Cubo de La Galga
Ericaceae	Heather Family		
<i>Arbutus canariensis</i> - CE	Canary Strawberry Tree	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Erica canariensis</i> - CE	Canary Tree Heather	2	Cubo de La Galga
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family		
<i>Euphorbia balsamifera</i>	Balsam Spurge	1	Round hotel
<i>Euphorbia canariensis</i> - CE	Canary Island Cactus-spurge	1	Round hotel
<i>Euphorbia lamarckii</i> - CE	Lamarck's Spurge	2	Mirador de San Bartolome
<i>Euphorbia peplis</i>	Petty Spurge		
<i>Mercurialis canariensis</i> - CE	Canary Island Mercury	2	Cubo de La Galga
[<i>Ricinus communis</i>]	Castor Oil Plant	6	Juan Mayor
Fabaceae (Leguminosae)	Pea Family		
<i>Adenocarpus viscosus</i> subsp. <i>spartioides</i> - LPE	La Palma Sticky Broom	5	Second roadside stop LP-4
<i>Bitumaria bituminosa</i>	Pitch Trefoil	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Chamaecytisus proliferus</i> subsp. <i>palmensis</i> - LPE	Tagasaste	3	Central Plains
<i>Cytisus supranubius</i> - CE	Teide White Broom	5	Roque de los Muchachos
<i>Genista benehoavensis</i> - LPE		5	Roque de los Muchachos
<i>Genista stenopetala</i> subsp. <i>sericea</i> - LPE	-	5	First roadside stop LP-4
<i>Genista stenopetala</i> subsp. <i>stenopetala</i> - CE		2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Lathyrus annuus</i>	Annual Yellow Pea	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Lathyrus articulatus</i>	A white Pea	3	La Cumbrecita
<i>Lathyrus clymenum</i>	-	3	Central Plains
<i>Lathyrus sphaericus</i>	Red Pea	6	Juan Mayor

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Scientific name	Common name	Day	Location
<i>Lathyrus tingitanus</i>	Tangier Pea	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Lotus campylocladus</i> subsp. <i>hillebrandii</i> - LPE	La Palma Bird's-foot Trefoil	4	Barranco de las Angustias
<i>Lupinus pilosus</i>	Blue Lupin	4	Barranco de las Angustias
<i>Ononis laxiflora</i>	A Rest-harrow	3	La Cumbrecita
<i>Ornithopus compressus</i>	Compressed Bird's-foot	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Retama rhodorhizoides</i> - CE	Canarian White Broom	2	Mirador de San Bartolome
<i>Trifolium arvense</i>	Hare's-foot Clover	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Hop Trefoil	5	First roadside stop LP-4
<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>	Starry Clover	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Trifolium subterraneum</i>	Burrowing Clover	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Vicia disperma</i>	Smooth Tare	5	First roadside stop LP-4
<i>Vicia lutea</i>	Yellow Pea	3	La Cumbrecita
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common Vetch	3	La Cumbrecita
Fagaceae	Beech Family		
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut	2	Cubo de La Galga
Frankeniaceae	Sea Heath Family		
<i>Frankenia ericifolia</i> subsp. <i>latifolia</i> - N	a Sea Heath	1	Round hotel
Geraniaceae	Geranium Family		
<i>Erodium malacoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Stork's-bill	4	Barranco de las Angustias
<i>Erodium moschatum</i>	Musk Stork's-bill	3	Central Plains
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	Little Robin	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	3	Central Plains
<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved Crane's-bill	6	Juan Mayor
Hypericaceae	St.John's-wort Family		
<i>Hypericum canariense</i> - N	Canary St.John's-wort	5	First roadside stop LP-4
<i>Hypericum grandifolium</i> - N		2	Cubo de La Galga
Lamiaceae	Dead-nettle Family		
<i>Bystropogon canariensis</i> - CE	-	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Lavandula canariensis</i> subsp. <i>palmensis</i> - LPE	Canary Lavender (La P)	4	Barranco de las Angustias
<i>Leonotis leonurus</i>	Lion's-tail	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Micromeria herpyllomorpha</i> - LPE	La Palma Savory	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Marjoram	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-heal	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Salvia canariensis</i>	Canary Island Sage	2	Mirador de San Bartolome
[<i>Salvia leucantha</i>]	Mexican Bush Sage	6	Juan Mayor
Malvaceae	Mallow Family		
<i>Malva pusilla</i>	Least Mallow	6	Juan Mayor
Moraceae	Fig Family		
[<i>Ficus carica</i>]	Common Fig	3	Tajogaite viewpoint
Myricaceae	Sweet Gale Family		
<i>Myrica faya</i>	Wax Myrtle	5	First roadside stop LP-4
Nyctaginaceae	Bougainvillea Family		
[<i>Bougainvillea glabra</i>]	Bougainvillea	2	Roadsides
Oleaceae	Olive Family		
<i>Chrysojasminum odoratissimum</i> - N	a Jasmine	2	Cubo de La Galga
Onagraceae	Willowherb Family		
<i>Oenothera rosea</i>	Rose Evening-primrose		

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Orobanchaceae	Broomrape Family		
<i>Orobanche crenata</i>	Bean Broomrape	6	Juan Mayor
Oxalidaceae	Wood Sorrel Family		
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda Buttercup	2	Very Widespread
Papaveraceae	Poppy Family		
<i>Eschscholzia californicum</i>	Californian Poppy	3	Roadsides
<i>Papaver dubium</i>	Long-headed Poppy	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common Poppy	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Papaver somniferum</i> subsp. <i>setigerum</i>	Opium Poppy	2	Mirador de San Bartolome
Phytolaccaceae	Pokeweed Family		
[<i>Phytolacca dioica</i>]	Ombu	6	Juan Mayor
Plantaginaceae	Plantain Family		
<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	Snapdragon	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Globularia salicina</i>	Shrubby Globularia	2	Mirador de San Bartolome
<i>Misopates orontium</i>	Weasel-snout	4	Barranco de las Angustias
<i>Plantago lagopus</i>	Hare's-tail Plantain	5	First roadside stop LP-4
<i>Plantago webbii</i> - CE	La Palma Plantain	5	Roque de los Muchachos
Plumbaginaceae	Thrift Family		
<i>Limonium pectinatum</i> - N	Dwarf Sea Lavender	1	Round hotel
Polygonaceae	Dock Family		
<i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i> subsp. <i>canariensis</i> - CE	Horned Dock	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Wavy-leaved Dock	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Rumex lunaria</i> - CE	Canary Dock	1	Very Widespread
Primulaceae	Primrose Family		
<i>Lysimachia loefferlingii</i>	Blue Pimpernel	2	Mirador de San Bartolome
Resedaceae	Mignonette Family		
<i>Reseda lueola</i>	Weld	5	Roque de los Muchachos
Rhamnaceae	Buckthorn Family		
<i>Rhamnus crenulata</i> - CE	-	2	Mirador de la Concepcion
Rosaceae	Rose Family		
<i>Bencomia caudata</i> - CE	-	5	Roque de los Muchachos
[<i>Prunus amygdalus</i>]	Almond	2	Mirador de San Bartolome
<i>Rubus bollei</i> - N	-	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Rubus palmensis</i> - CE	-	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Sanguisorba megacarpa</i> - N	a Burnet	6	Juan Mayor
Rubiaceae	Bedstraw Family		
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Phyllis nobla</i> - N	Capitana	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Rubia fruticosa</i> - N	Madder (bush)	2	Mirador de San Bartolome
<i>Rubia fruticosa</i> subsp. <i>periclymenum</i>	Madder (climbing)	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Field Madder	6	Juan Mayor
Salicaceae	Willow Family		
<i>Salix pedicellata</i> subsp. <i>canariensis</i> - N	Canary Willow	2	Cubo de La Galga
Solanaceae	Nightshade Family		
<i>Datura stramonium</i>	Thorn-apple	3	Roadsides
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	Shrub Tobacco	4	Barranco de las Angustias
<i>Solanum villosum</i>	A Black Nightshade	2	Cubo de La Galga

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Tamaricaceae	Tamarisk Family		
<i>Tamarix canariensis</i>	Canary Tamarisk	1	Round hotel
Tropaeolaceae	Nasturtium Family		
<i>Tropaeolum majus</i>	Garden Nasturtium	3	Central Plains
Urticaceae	Nettle Family		
<i>Gesnouinia arborea</i> - CE	Tree Pellitory	2	Cubo de La Galga
Verbenaceae	Verbena Family		
[<i>Lantana camera</i>]	Lantana	6	Juan Mayor
Viburnaceae	Viburnum Family		
<i>Sambucus palmensis</i> - CE	Canary Island Elder		
<i>Viburnum rugosum</i> subsp. <i>rigidum</i>) - CE	Canary Island Guelder Rose	2	Cubo de La Galga
Violaceae	Violet Family		
<i>Viola palmensis</i>	La Palma Pansy	5	Roque de los Muchachos
Zygophyllaceae	Caltrop Family		
<i>Zygophyllum creticum</i>	Fagonia		
Monocots	Monocotyledons		
Areaceae	Palm Family		
<i>Phoenix canariensis</i> - CE	Canary Palm	2	Very Widespread
Asparagaceae	Asparagus Family		
[<i>Agave americana</i>]	Century Plant	2	Widely planted
<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>		6	Juan Mayor
<i>Dracaena draco</i>	Dragon Tree	2	Widely planted
<i>Semele androgyna</i> - N	-	6	Juan Mayor
Asphodelaceae	Aloe Family		
<i>Aloe vera</i>	Aloevera	2	Widely planted
<i>Asphodelus ramosus</i>	Common Asphodel	2	Roadsides
Orchidaceae	Orchid Family		
<i>Habernaria tridactylites</i>	Canary Twayblade	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Serapias parviflora</i>	Small-flowered Tongue-orchid	6	Juan Mayor
Poaceae	Grass Family		
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed	2	Cubo de La Galga
<i>Briza media</i>	Quaking Grass	3	Central Plains
<i>Briza minor</i>	Annual Quaking Grass	6	Juan Mayor
<i>Cenchrus (Pennisetum) setaceum</i>	Fountain Grass	4	Barranco de las Angustias
<i>Lamarckia aurea</i>	Lamarck's Golden Grass	5	First roadside stop LP-4
Smilacaceae	Smilax Family		
<i>Smilax canariensis</i> - CE	Canary Smilax	2	Cubo de La Galga