The Camargue in Spring

Naturetrek Tour Report

3 - 7 May 2017



Great Spotted Cuckoo



Squacco Heron



Curlew Sandpiper & Dunlin



Lesser Kestrel

Report compiled by Neil McMahon Images courtesy of Barry Clough



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Summary

A short birding trip to the very special Camargue district of southern France provides an excellent opportunity to experience good views of typical waterbirds of the west Mediterranean. Utilising a family-run hotel on the outskirts of the ancient city of Arles as our base, the itinerary provided an easy opportunity to look for flamingoes, herons and wading birds using the shallow waters and reed-fringed lagoons as a breeding area or a suitable stop-over for north-bound migrants. Scrubby and dryer areas attract different and more localized species and we located glamour birds such as Hoopoe, Roller and Eurasian Bee-eater, together with a selection of raptors that call the Camargue home.

Day 1

Wednesday 3rd May

Twelve guests travelled with leaders Ian and Neil on an Easyjet flight from Gatwick, North Terminal, to Montpellier. All went according to plan and we took immediate delivery of two Opel Vivaro minibuses from the airport and drove around Etang de Mauguio, seeing plenty of Greater Flamingoes and a Hoopoe whilst doing so. Our journey took us past some rice paddies where we saw our first views of Glossy Ibis and plenty of Blackheaded and Mediterranean Gulls. A quick recce at Mas d'Agon provided views of a Squacco Heron perched on a roadside post, sadly partially obscured by reed. Pressing on, we soon arrived at Hotel des Granges, our home for the next four nights and here we met up with four of our party who had travelled under their own steam.

So, as a full complement, we were greeted by the vibrant song of the Nightingale and plenty of "chirruping" House Sparrows around the hotel grounds. Marie-Jo and Bruno (the proprietors of the hotel) greeted us warmly and rooms were allocated. Some of us went for a walk whilst the guides popped into nearby Arles to purchase picnic items for the following day.

At 7.30pm we sat down to a sumptuous meal and then it was lights out for many due to travel fatigue.

Day 2 Friday 4th May

Ten guests met at 6.30am for a track walk, there and back, along to the canal. We recorded Common Buzzard, Kestrel, Black Kite, Nightingale, Cetti's Warbler, Corn Bunting, Zitting Cisticola (Fan-tailed Warbler), Kingfisher and two Rollers. A fly-over Tree Pipit was the only one recorded during the tour.

After our 8am breakfast we mustered at 8.45am and left with our picnic on board a short time later. Roadside birding in the Mas d'Agon area proved to be particularly productive. For many a perched and well-behaved Great Spotted Cuckoo was the highlight, but the feeding Gull-billed Terns, stunning Mediterranean Gulls, a confiding Whiskered Tern and our first Bee-eaters were all contenders. Migrant 'Tundra' Ringed Plover and Wood Sandpiper initiated the wader list with flocks of both showing well.

A little further down the road, bushes and reed provided views of smaller birds including a Pied Flycatcher and Bearded Reedling for some. A flock of Whiskered Terns, with two accompanying Black Terns, were easier to see and raptors overhead included Short-toed Eagle, Black Kite and a female Peregrine Falcon. The herons were not

to be outdone and up to six Purple Herons provided a variety of views, eclipsing the more plentiful egrets. Great Reed and European Reed Warblers, Red-crested Pochard, Black-winged Stilt and Glossy Ibis helped provide the backdrop for some really enjoyable birdwatching in ideal weather conditions.

Morning quickly changed to lunch time and we drove south on the D570 to reach the Parc Ornithologique du Pont de Gau. Here we did justice to our eagerly awaited picnic with Nightingales, Cetti's Warbler and some very young scholars from a school outing all entertaining us!

Off we then went for an afternoon dawdle around the shallow lagoons of this reserve, observing nesting Grey Heron and Cattle and Little Egrets at very close range. The Coypu is a large, introduced rodent of almost beaver-sized proportions and plenty of these ambivalent animals entertained us as they swam around in the margins.

Greater Flamingoes were arguably the stars of the show here, with many flocks only a matter of metres away from us as they fed and rested in this safe haven. It was easy to read the colour-rings which were affixed to the legs of a proportion of these birds. Black-winged Stilt, Pied Avocet, Little Tern and Red-crested Pochard all showed well and a couple of Black-crowned Night Herons also put in an appearance. Singing Moustached Warblers remained hidden but Sardinian Warblers showed nicely. We finished with a hot drink at the café and then took a steady drive back to our hotel for about 5.30pm. After freshening up, we completed the checklist for the day and sat down to enjoy another Provencal signature meal.

Day 3 Saturday 5th May

Our early-morning walk before breakfast finally provided some good views of Melodious Warbler and Nightingale, plus Crested Lark and a hunting Red Fox. Our morning concentrated on working the eastern side of the Camargue but we were still west of the River Rhone. We skirted round the edge of Etang de Vaccares, espying distant Great Crested and Black-necked Grebes and a fishing Osprey. White Storks bill-clattered from atop their nests and it was a day for seeing as many as a dozen Short-toed Eagles, two of which caught and consumed small snakes/slow worms.

A distant flock of Collared Pratincoles came a little closer so that we could appreciate their basic flight action and plumage characteristics, and more raptors included Hobby, Marsh Harrier and a young male Montagu's Harrier.

Our picnic spot provided views of Kingfisher, an all-too-brief White-winged Tern and a mixture of freshwater birds. Then it was off to the coast as we navigated through the settlement of Salin de Giraud with its unusual houses, originally built for immigrant workers. The saltpans were mostly empty of birds but the open lagoons held good numbers of waders and terns. Dunlin, Little Stint, Curlew Sandpiper, Pied Avocet and Black-winged Stilt all showed well and terns included Little, Sandwich and Common. A first summer Little Gull fed alongside flocks of super-looking Slender-billed Gulls with Mediterranean, Black-headed and Yellow-legged Gulls providing more side-by-side variety.

Scanning at Piemaeson added Grey Plover and Sanderling, and the opportunity of savoring the sights and evocative calls of Sandwich Terns as they gathered to bathe and preen. It was then a slow trundle back to our hotel, slowing to examine any roadside birds which included a fine female Red-footed Falcon.

Day 4 Sunday 6th May

Our 6.30am track walk leading from the hotel provided Little Owl, calling Quail, two singing Grasshopper Warblers, Black Redstart, White Wagtail and Red Fox. That was in addition to the norm of singing Nightingales, Melodious Warblers and 'zitting' Fan-tailed Warblers, now called Zitting Cisticolas!

After breakfast we ventured to La Crau, and the approach from the north produced brief views of Woodlark, Golden Oriole and Turtle Dove. On arriving at the stony semi-desert it decided to rain, and it was heavy too! So we remained in our minibuses, waiting for a reprieve for about an hour or so. We then circumnavigated the area and attacked it from the south where there were brief fly-over views of Little Bustard for some and a nice flock of 30-40 Lesser Kestrels for all of us! Other good birds included some singing Calandra Larks, up to seven Stone-curlews and brief views of both Hobby and Red-footed Falcon. A couple of wet-looking Tawny Pipits, some Northern Wheatears and a Short-toed Lark didn't look at their best! Warming temperatures with some eagerly-awaited sunshine also provided us with more views of feeding Hoopoe and Roller.

Lunchtime found us at Maries du Vigueirat, a nearby extensive marshland. First it was our picnic lunch on the long tables by the reserve entrance where we continued in our quest to try as many different French cheeses as possible in five days! So, suitably refreshed and perhaps rather full, we waddled into the reserve with a muchimproved weather picture and quickly found plenty to look at. Four summer plumage Squacco Herons on the flooded meadows was difficult to beat, particularly as they showed so well, but a rather distant fly-past flock of 14 Black-crowned Night Herons was pretty good, well supported with a Great Egret and a couple of Purple Herons too! White Storks nest here and a couple of Marsh Harriers hunted low in front of us. Eurasian Beeeaters also nest here and these resplendent birds showed well for us, both perched and in flight.

More heard than seen, warbler song from the scrub and reeds included Reed and Melodious Warblers and Blackcap, well accompanied of course by the numerous Nightingales!

Coypus swam around in the shallow lagoons, indifferent to our presence, and large carp wallowed in the margins. A Stripeless Tree Frog, Wall Lizards and even a Green Lizard or two were on show for a couple of observers, and dragonflies included Black-tailed Skimmer, Lesser Emperor and Scarlet Darter.

We eventually tore ourselves away from this very pleasing reserve, with a little retail therapy evident in the visitors centre, and then made our way back to Hotel des Granges for the checklist, our last evening meal and, of course, some packing!

Day 5 Monday 7th May

No early morning walk today as we enjoyed an early breakfast at 7am and then the majority of us departed to Montpellier for onward return home or to continue touring in sunny, warm and breezy conditions. Those flying back to the UK landed at Gatwick Airport, where another Naturetrek adventure came to an end.

Species Lists

Birds (\checkmark =recorded but not counted; H = heard only; F = female)

					May		
	Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7
1	Greylag Goose	Anser anser			1		
2	Mute Swan	Cygnus olor	✓	✓	✓	✓	
3	Common Shelduck	Tadorna tadorna	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Red-crested Pochard	Netta rufina		10+	3	1	
6	Red-legged Partridge	Alectoris rufa			2		
7	Common Quail	Coturnix coturnix				Н	
8	Common Pheasant	Phasianus colchicus		Н	✓	Н	
9	Great Crested Grebe	Podiceps cristatus		✓	✓		
10	Black-necked Grebe	Podiceps nigricollis			50		
11	Greater Flamingo	Phoenicopterus roseus	✓	✓	✓		✓
12	White Stork	Ciconia ciconia		1	12	10	✓
13	Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus	✓	✓	✓	1	✓
14	Eurasian Spoonbill	Platalea leucorodia		3	1		
15	Eurasian Bittern	Botaurus stellaris			Н		
16	Black-crowned Night Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax		2		14	
17	Squacco Heron	Ardeola ralloides	1			4	
18	Western Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19	Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
20	Purple Heron	Ardea purpurea		8	2	2	
21	Great Egret	Ardea alba		2	2	1	2
22	Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
23	Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo		1	3		
24	Western Osprey	Pandion haliaetus			1		
25	Short-toed Snake Eagle	Circaetus gallicus	1	2	12		
26	Western Marsh Harrier	Circus aeruginosus		2	4	3	1
27	Montagu's Harrier	Circus pygargus			1	1	
28	Black Kite	Milvus migrans	✓	12	20	12	✓
29	Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30	Little Bustard	Tetrax tetrax				3	
31	Water Rail	Rallus aquaticus			Н		
32	Common Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus		✓	✓	✓	
33	Eurasian Coot	Fulica atra		✓	✓	✓	
34	Eurasian Stone-curlew	Burhinus oedicnemus				7	
35	Eurasian Oystercatcher	Haematopus ostralegus					1
36	Black-winged Stilt	Himantopus himantopus	✓	✓	✓		✓
37	Pied Avocet	Recurvirostra avosetta		✓	✓		
38	Grey Plover	Pluvialis squatorola			2		
39	Common Ringed Plover	Charadrius hiaticula		15	25		
40	Kentish Plover	Charadrius alexandrinus			2		
41	Common Redshank	Tringa totanus			1		
42	Wood Sandpiper	Actitis glareola		20	20		
43	Sanderling	Calidris alba			1		
44	Little Stint	Calidris minuta			100+		
45	Curlew Sandpiper	Calidris ferruginea			20		
46	Dunlin	Calidris alpina			100+		
47	Collared Pratincole	Glareola pratincola			12		

				Мау						
	Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7			
48	Slender-billed Gull	Chroicocephalus genei			200+					
49	Black-headed Gull	Chroicocephalus ridibundus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
50	Little Gull	Hyrolcoloeus minutus			1					
51	Mediterranean Gull	Ichthyaetus melanocephalus	✓	✓	✓		✓			
52	Yellow-legged Gull	Larus michahellis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
53	Gull-billed Tern	Gelochelidon nilotica	✓	12+	12		✓			
54	Caspian Tern	Hydroprogne caspia			4					
55	Sandwich Tern	Thalasseus sandvicensis			√					
56	Little Tern	Sternula albifrons		12	√					
57	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo		✓	✓	✓				
58	Whiskered Tern	Chlidonias hybrida		✓	✓					
59	White-winged Tern	Chlidonias leucopterus			1					
60	Black Tern	Chlidonias niger		2	•					
61	Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	Columba livia	√	<u> </u>	✓	✓	✓			
62	Common Wood Pigeon	Columba palumbus	· ·	✓	✓ ·	· ✓				
63	European Turtle Dove	Streptopelia turtur			•	1				
64	Eurasian Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto	✓	✓	√		✓			
			<u> </u>	-	•	•				
65	Great Spotted Cuckoo	Clamator glandarius		1	✓	✓				
66	Common Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus		V						
67	Little Owl	Athene noctua			Н	1				
68	Common Swift	Apus apus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
69	European Roller	Coracias garrulus		2	3	2				
70	Common Kingfisher	Alcedo atthis		1	1					
71	European Bee-eater	Merops apiaster		20+	50+	50+				
72	Eurasian Hoopoe	Upupa epops		1	2	1				
73	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	Dryobates minor			2					
74	European Green Woodpecker	Picus viridis		Н	1	Н				
75	Lesser Kestrel	Falco naumanni				30-40				
76	Common Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
77	Eurasian Hobby	Falco subbuteo			1	2				
78	Red-footed Falcon	Falco vespertinus			1	1				
79	Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus		1F						
80	Eurasian Golden Oriole	Oriolus oriolus			2	2				
81	Eurasian Magpie	Pica pica	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
82	Western Jackdaw	Coloeus monedula	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
83	Rook	Corvus frugilegus	✓	✓	8	7	✓			
84	Carrion Crow	Corvus corone	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
85	Eurasian Blue Tit	Cyanistes caeruleus			✓					
86	Great Tit	Parus major		✓	✓	✓				
87	Bearded Reedling	Panurus biarmicus		1+	2+					
88	Woodlark	Lullula arborea				1				
89	Eurasian Skylark	Alauda arvensis		✓	√	✓				
90	Crested Lark	Galerida cristata		✓	✓	✓				
91	Greater Short-toed Lark	Calandrella brachydactyla				1				
92	Calandra Lark	Melanocorypha calandra				6				
93	Sand Martin	Riparia riparia		✓	✓	✓ /				
94	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	√	✓	✓	√	✓			
95	Common House Martin	Delichon urbicum	<u>·</u> ✓	✓		1				
96	Cetti's Warbler	Cettia cetti	<u> </u>	✓	√	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
97	Long-tailed Tit	Aegithalos caudatus	-	✓						
98	Willow Warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus		1						

					May		
	Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7
99	Western Bonelli's Warbler	Phylloscopus bonelli		Н	Н		
100	Great Reed Warbler	Acrocephalus arundinaceus		6	✓	Н	
101	Eurasian Reed Warbler	Acrocephalus scirpaceus		6	✓	✓	
102	Moustached Warbler	Acrocephalus melanopogon		Н	Н		
103	Common Grasshopper Warbler	Locustella naevia				2H	
104	Melodious Warbler	Hippolais polyglotta		3	c12	✓	
105	Zitting Cisticola	Cisticola juncidis		8	✓	✓	
106	Eurasian Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla		Н	Н	Н	
107	Spectacled Warbler	Sylvia conspicillata			4		
108	Sardinian Warbler	Sylvia melanocephala		✓	✓	✓	
109	Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
110	Common Blackbird	Turdus merula		1			
111	Spotted Flycatcher	Muscicapa striata			1		
112	Common Nightingale	Luscinia megarhynchos	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
113	European Pied Flycatcher	Ficedula hypoleuca		3	2		
114	Black Redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros		✓	✓	1	2
115	Whinchat	Saxicola rubetra		1	1		
116	European Stonechat	Saxicola rubicola			4		
117	Northern Wheatear	Oenanthe oenanthe		2	4	5	
118	House Sparrow	Passer domesticus		✓	✓	✓	✓
119	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Passer montanus		✓	✓	✓	
120	Western Yellow Wagtail	Motacilla flava		✓	✓	✓	
121	White Wagtail	Motacilla alba				1	
122	Tawny Pipit	Anthus campestris		1	2	4	
123	Tree Pipit	Anthus trivialis		1			
124	European Greenfinch	Chloris chloris			✓	✓	
125	European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
126	Corn Bunting	Emberiza calandra		✓	✓	✓	
127	Common Reed Bunting	Emberiza schoeniclus		1			

Mammals

1	Coypu	Myocastor coypus	✓	✓	✓	
2	Rabbit	Oryctolagus cuniculus	✓	✓	✓	
3	Red Fox	Vulpes vulpes		✓	✓	
4	Iberian Hare	Lepus granatensis			✓	

Amphibians & Reptiles

1	Iberian Water Frog	Pelophylax perezi		Н	Н	Н	
2	European Pond Terrapin	Emys orbicularis				1	
3	Western Green Lizard	Lacerta bilineata				✓	
4	Lizard sp.				1	✓	
5	Stripeless Tree Frog	Hyla meridionalis				✓	
6	Moorish Gecko	Tarentola mauritanica	3	✓	✓		
7	Slow worm	Anguis fragilis			✓		

Fish

1	Carp	Cyprinus carpio	✓	✓	
2	Bitterling	Rhodeus amarus		✓	

		May				
Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7

Butterflies

1	Large White	Pieris brassicae			✓		
2	Common Blue	Polyommatus icarus				✓	
3	Red Admiral	Vanessa atalanta		✓	✓	✓	
4	Painted Lady	Vanessa cardui	✓		✓		
5	Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria		✓	✓	✓	
6	Wall Brown	Lasiommata megera			✓	✓	
7	Western Marbled White	Melanargia occitanica				✓	

Moths

1	Humming-bird Hawk-moth	Macroglossum stellatarum		1	

Dragonflies & Damselflies

1	Blue-tailed Damselfly	Ischnura elegans		✓	
2	Lesser Emperor	Anax parthenope		✓	
3	Black-tailed Skimmer	Orthetrum cancellatum		✓	
4	Scarlet Darter	Limenitis reducta		✓	

Others

1	Migratory Locust	Locusta migratoria		✓	

THE FLORA OF ARLES, LE CRAU AND THE CAMARGUE

Compiled by Margaret Thomas

NOTES

- 1. The accuracy of this plant list is not guaranteed, in part, because identification sometimes took place while on the move or at stops when the group were watching birds.
- 2. The locations are approximate because there are not clear boundaries between the areas.
- 3. The weather was problematic at Le crau, so, while the plant families are reasonably accurate, the particular species may not be.
- 4. Entries in italics indicate plants seen in the area before or after the tour.
- 5. Plants seen in the area which have their origin in other parts of the world have been omitted from the list.
- 6. Some plants which originate elsewhere but have become naturalised in the wild, especially close to farms, have been included.
- 7. Widespread refers to the extent of the coverage, not the frequency of occurrences.

FAMILY

ENGLISH NAME

LOCATION

PTERIDOPHYTES

Equisitaceae

Horsetails

Equisetum arvense

Common Horsetail

Arles

Polypodaceae

Asplenium trichomonas

Maidenhair Spleenwort

Arles

LOCATION FAMILY ENGLISH NAME PINOPSIDA (Gymnosperms) **Conifers** Cupressaceae **Juniper Family** Cupressus sempervirens Italian Cypress Arles Juniperus oxycedrus Widespread Prickly Juniper Juniperus phoenicea Phoencian Juniper Camargue Pinaceae **Pine Family** Pinus halepensis Aleppo Pine Widespread Pinus pinea Stone Pine Widespread Maritime Pine Pinus pinister Camargue MAGNOLIOPSIDA (Angiosperms) Flowering Plants **Primitive Angiosperms** Aristolochiaceae Aristolochia baetica Dutchman's Pipe Camargue/Arles Aristolochia clematitis Birthwort Camargue/Arles **True Dicotyledons** Magnoliidae Aceraceae **Maple Family** Acer monspessulanum Montpelier Maple Camargue Alismataceae Alisma plantago-aquatica Common Water Plantain Camargue Luronium natans Floating Water Plantain Camargue Amaranthaceae **Amaranth Family** Amaranthus cruentus An amaranth Arles Anacardiaceae **Sumach Family** Pistacia lentiscus Mastic bush Arles Apiaceae **Carrot Family** False Bishop's Weed Arles Ammi majus Widespread Anthriscus sylvestrus Cow Parsley Fool's Water-cress Arles Apium nodiflorum Bifora testiculata Bifora Arles Bupleurum fructicosum Shrubby Hare's-ear Arles Wild Carrot Arles/Camargue Daucus carota Field Eryngo Eryngium campestre Le Crau Eryngium maritimum Sea Holly Camargue Ferula communis Giant Fennel Camargue Foeniculum vulgare Fennel Arles Oenarthe globulosa Mediterranean Water Dropwort Camargue Sanicula europea Sanicle Arles Scandex pectin-veneris Shephderd's Needle Camargue Alexanders Smymium olusatrum Camargue Apocynaceae **Periwinkle Family** Nerium oleander Oleander Widespread

Hedera helix Atlantic Ivy Widespread

Ivy Family

Araliaceae

FAMILY ENGLISH NAME LOCATION

Asteraceae	Daisy Family	
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow	Le Crau
Actium lappa	Greater Burdock	Arles
Anacyclus clavatus	White Daisy	Camargue
Andryala integrifolia	Rabbits Bread	Le Crau
Anthemis arvensis	Corn Chamomile	Arles
Anthemis maritimus	A chamomile	Camargue
Arctotheca calendula	Cape Weed	Naturalised
Artemesia maritima	Sea Wormwood	Camargue
Aster tripolium	Sea Aster	Camargue
Asteriscus aquatica	An Asteriscus	Arles
Atractylis canellata sub ganditana	Cage Thistle	Le Crau
Bellis perennis	Daisy	Arles
Bellis sylvestris	Common Daisy	Widespread
Calendula suffruticosa	Rock Marigold	Camargue
Calepina irregularis	White Ball Mustard	Arles
Cardopatium corymbosum	Cardiopatium	Camargue
Carduus pycnocephalis	Italian Thistle	Camargue
Carlina corymbosa	Flat topped Carline Thistle	Arles
Carthamus lanatus	Woolly Thistle	Arles
Centaurea aspera	Rough Star Thistle	Camargue
Centaurea jacea	Brown-rayed Knapweed	Arles
Cichorium intybus	Chicory	Arles
Circium vulgare/lanceolatum	Spear Thistle	Camargue
Conzya canadensis	Canadian Fleabane	Arles/Camargue
Crepis capiollaris	Smooth Hawk's-beard	Arles
Crepis nicaeesis	French Hawk's-beard	Widespread
Crepis vesicaria	Beaked Hawk's-beard	Widespread
Crithmum maritimum	Rock Samphire	Camargue
Echinops ritro	Globe thistle	Arles
Galactites tomentosa	Purple Milk Thistle	Le Crau
Helminthotheca echiodes	Bristly Oxtongue	Widespread
Helichrysum stoechas	Common Shrubby Everlasting	Camargue
Hieracium Pilosella	Mouse-eared Hawkweed	Arles
Hyoseris radiata	Dandelion	Widespread
Hypochaeris achyrophorus	Mediterranean Cat's-ear	Widespread
Hypochaeris glabra	Smooth Cat's-ear	Widespread
Inula crithmoides	Golden Samphire	Camargue
Inula salicina	Irish Fleabane	Camargue
Inula viscosa	False Yellowhead	Camargue
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	Widespread
Lactuca saligna	Least Lettuce	Arles
Leontodon tuberosis	Tuberous Hawkbit	Arles
Leucanthemum vulgare	Ox-eye daisy	Camargue
Matricaria recutita	Scented Mayweed	Camargue
Mycelis muralis	Wall Lettuce	Widespread
Onopordum illyricum	Illyrian Scotch Thistle	Arles
Pulicaria dysenterica	Common Fleabane	Arles
Santolina chamaecyparissus	Cotton Lavender	Arles
Senecio bicolor/cineraria	Silver Ragwort	Arles
Senecio vulgaris	Groundsel	Widespread
Silybum marianum	Milk thistle	Various
Sonchus asper	Prickly sow-thistle	Arles

FAMILY

Sonchus maritimus Sonchus oleraceus Sonchus tenerrimus Tanacetum vulgare Tolpis barbata

Tragopogon pratensis Urospermum dalechampii

Tragopogon porrifolius

Boraginaceae

Borago officialis Cynoglossum creticum Echium plantagineum Lappula squarrosa

Omphalodes linifolia

Brassicacaea

Arabidopsis thaliana Brassica fruticulosa Brassica olearaceae

Carderia draba/ Lepidium draba

Eruca satvia/vesicaria Iberis sempervirens/amara

Raphanus raphanistrum Sinapsis alba

Lobularia maritima

Sinapsis arvensis Sisymbrium officinale

Capparaceae

Capparis spinosa

Caprifoliaceae

Lonicera etrusca Sambucus elubus Viburnum lantana Viburnum tinus

Caryophyllaceae

Paronychia argentia Silene alba Silene italica Spergularia media Stellaria media Vaccaria pyramidata

Chenopodiaceae

Atriplex halimus Atriplex hastata Beta vulgaris Chenopodium murale

Halimione/Atriplex portulacoides

Salicornia europaea

ENGLISH NAME

Sea sowthistle Camargue Smooth Sow-thistle Widespread Mediterranean Sowthistle Widespread Arles Tansy **Tolpis** Le Crau Salsify Camargue Goats-beard Widespread Smooth Golden Fleece Arles

LOCATION

Forget-me-not Family

Arles Borage

Arles/Camargue Blue Hound's-tongue Purple Viper's Bugloss Arles Bur forget-me-not Camargue Venus' Navelwort Le Crau

Cabbage Family

Thale Cress Camargue Mediterranean Cabbage Arles Wild Cabbage Le Crau Widespread **Hoary Cress** An eruca Rocket Widespread

Evergreen Candytuft Arles

Sweet Alison Widespread

Wild Radish Arles

White Mustard Widespread Charlock Widespread

Hedge Mustard Arles

Caper Family

Camargue Caper

Honeysuckle Family

Arles Etruscan Honeysuckle Widespread **Dwarf Elder**

Wayfaring Tree Arles Laurustinus Arles

Pink Family

A Paronychia Le Crau White Campion Widespread Italian Catchfly Le Crau **Greater Sand-spurrey** Camargue Common Chickweed Arles Cow Basil Arles

Fat-hen Family

Shrubby Orache Camargue An Orache Camargue Sea Beet Camargue Nettle-leaved Goosefoot Widespread Sea Purslane Camargue Common Glasswort Camargue

FAMILY ENGLISH NAME LOCATION

Salicornia perennis Shrubby glasswort Camargue Sucreda maritmus Sea Blite Camargue

Cistaceae Rock-rose Family

Cistus albidus Grey Rock-rose/ Sun Rose Widespread

Convolvulaceae Bindweed Family

Calystegia silvaticaGreat BindweedArlesConvolvulus arvensisField BindweedWidespreadConvolvulus cantabricaPink BindweedWidespreadConvolvulus sepiumLarger BindweedCamargue

Crassulaceae Stonecrop Family

Sedum acreBiting Stonecrop/WallpepperArlesSedum albumWhite StonecropLe CrauSedum sediformeGreen StonecropArles/CamargueUmbilicus rupestrisNavelwortWidespread

Cucurbitaceae White Bryony Family

Bryonia cretica sub. disica White Bryony Arles

Ecballium elaterium Squirting Cucumber Arles/Camargue

Dioscoreaceae Yam Family

Tamus communis Black Bryony Arles

Dipsacaceae Teasel Family

Dipsacus fulloriumFullers TeaselWidespreadKnautia arvensisField ScabiousArles

Ericaceae Heath Family

Erica terminalis Corsican Heath Camargue

Euphorbiaceae Spurge Family

Euphorbia biumbellataWhorled SpurgeCamargueEuphorbia helioscopiaSun SpurgeWidespreadEuphorbia niceaeensisSouthern SpurgeLe CrauEuphorbia peplisPetty Spurge/ Purple SpurgeArlesRicinus communisCastor Oil PlantArles

Fabiaceae Pea Family

Anthyllis vulneraria subs praepropera Mediterranean Kidney-vetch Le Crau Astragalus massiliensis/tragacanth A tragacanth Le Crau Bituminaria/ Psoralea bituminosa Pitch Trefoil Arles Ceratonia siliqua Camargue Locust tree Coronilla juncea Arles Rush-like Scorpion Vetch Arles Coronilla scorpoceles Annual Scorpion Vetch

Coronilla valentina sub Glauca Large Scorpion Vetch Arles
Genista scorpius A greenweed Widespread

Hedysarum coronoriumFrench HoneysuckleArlesHymenocarpus circulatusDisk TrefoilCamargueLathyrus aphacaYellow VetchlingArles

Lathyrus articulatus sub clymenum Spanish Vetchling Widespread Lathyrus cicera Red Vetchling Arles

FAMILY

ENGLISH NAME

LOCATION

Lathyrus latifolius **Everlasting Pea** Widespread Lathyrus hirsutus Hairy Vetchling Camargue Lotus corniculatus Bird's-foot Trefoil Camargue Medicago Arabica Spotted Medick Widespread Medicago polymorpha **Toothed Medick** Widespread Lucerne Medicago sativa Arles Melilotus alba White Melilot Camargue Melilotus indicus Small-flowered Melilot Arles/Camargue Melilotus neopolitanus **European Sweet Clover** Le Crau Melilotus officinalis Ribbed Melilot Camargue Onobrychis viciifolia Common Sainfoin Arles Spartium junceum Spanish Broom Widespread Tetragonolobus maritimus Dragon's Teeth Camargue Trifolium campestre Hop Trefoil Widespread Trifolium hybridum subs elegans Alsike Clover Widespread Trifolium nigrescens Small White Clover Camargue Trifolium pratense Red Clover Camargue Trifolium repens White Clover Arles

Gorse Widespread Ulex europaeus Vicia cracca **Tufted Vetch** Camargue Vicia hirsuta Hairy Tare Arles Vicia peregrina Rambling Vetch Camargue Vicia sativa Common Vetch Widespread Vicia villosa Fodder Vetch Camargue

Fagaceae

Oak and Beech Family

Quercus coccifera

Widespread

widespread

Geraniaceae

Erodium botrys Erodium chium Erodium cicutarium Erodium malacoides Erodium moschatum

Geranium molle Geranium pusillum Geranium robertianum Geranium rotundifolium

Round-leaved Geranium

Common Thyme

Geranium Family

Kermes Oak

Mediterranean Stork's-bill Camargue Three-lobed Storkbill Arles Arles Common Stork's-bill Mallow-leaved Stork's-bill Arles Arles Musk Stork's-bill

Arles/Camargue Dove's foot Crane's-bill Small-leaved Crane's-bill Le Crau Herb Robert Widespread

Arles

Lamiaceae

Lavendula angustifolia Lavendula stoechas Menthe aquatica Origanum vulgare Rosmarinus officinalis Salvia officinalis Salvia verbenaca Salvia verticillata

Scutellaria galericulata Sideritis hirsuta Stachys cretica Thymus vulgaris

Dead-nettle Family

Common Lavender Arles French Lavender Arles Water Mint Camargue Widespread Marjoram Rosemary Widespread Arles Sage Arles Wild Clary Whorled Clary Arles Arles Common Skullcap Hairy Ironwort Arles Mediterranean Woundwort Camargue

FAMILY ENGLISH NAME LOCATION

Lauraceae Laurel Family

Laurus nobilis Sweet Bay Arles

Linaceae Flax Family

Linum bienne Pale flax Arles

Malvaceae Mallow Family

Althea hirsuta Rough Marsh Mallow Arles Lavatera arborea Tree Mallow Camargue Lavatera cretica Cretan Mallow Arles Malva nicaensis French Mallow Camargue Common Mallow Arles Malva sylvestris Tilia platyphyllos Large-leaved Lime Arles

Moraceae Fig Family

Ficus carica Wild Fig Widespread

Myrtaceae Myrtle Family

Myrtus communis Myrtle Arles

Nymphaeaceae

Nuphar lutea Yellow Water Lily Arles

Oleaceae Olive Family

Fraxinus ornusFlowering AshWidespreadJasminum fruticansWild JasmineArlesOlea eurolaeaWild OliveWidespreadPhillyrea angustifoliaNarrow-leaved Mock PrivetCamargue

Orobranchaceae Broomrape Family

Orobanche caryophyllacea Bedstraw Broomrape Arles
Orobanche minor Common Broomrape Camargue

Oxalidaceae Wood-sorrel Family

Oxalis pes-caprae Bermuda Buttercup Arles

Papervaraceae Poppy Family

Fumaria capreolataRamping FumitoryCamargueFumaria officianalisCommon FumitoryArlesGlaucium flavumYellow Horned PoppyCamarguePapaver dubriumLong-headed PoppyArlesPapaver rhoeasCommon Red PoppyWidespread

Papaver somniferum Opium Poppy Arles

Pittosporaceae

Pittosporum tobira Japanese Pittosporum Arles

Plantaginaceae Plantain Family

Plantago coronopusBuck's Horn PlantainCamarguePlantago lanceolateRibwort PlantainArlesPlantago majorGreater PlantainWidespreadPlantago mediaHoary PlantainWidespread

FAMILY	ENGLISH NAME	LOCATION
Plumbaginaceae	Thrift Family	
Limonium vulgare	Common Sea-lavender	Camargue
Poaceae	Grass Family	
Aegilops neglecta	Three Awned Goat Grass	Camargue
Aeluropus littoralis	-	Camargue
Ammophila arenaria	European Marram Grass	Camargue
Arundo donax	Giant Reed	Camargue
Avena sterilis	Winter Wild Oat grass	Widespread
Brachipodium retusum	Mediterranean False Brome	Camargue
Briza maxima	Large Quaking Grass	Camargue
Bromus madritensis	Compact Brome	Widespread
Bromus sterilis	Barren Brome	Widespread
Cynodon dactylon	Bermuda Grass	Camargue
Cynosurus ectunatus	Rough Dog's tail grass	Arles
Dactylis glomerata	Cocksfoot	Naturalised
Desmazeria rigida	Fern Grass	Arles
Elymus farctus	Sand Couch grass	Camargue
Elymus repens	Common Couch grass	Widespread
Festuca rubra	Red Fescue	Camargue
Holchus lanatus	Yorkshire fog	Arles
Hordeum maritum	Sea Barley	Camargue
Hordeum murinum	Wall Barley	Arles
Lagurus ovatum	Hair's-tail grass	Camargue
Lolium multiflorum	Italian Rye grass	Camargue
Lolium temulentum	Annual Rye grass/Darnel	Widespread
Melica ciliata	Hairy Melick	Camargue
Pannisetum alopecuroides	Fountain Grass	Arles
Phragmites australis	Common Reed	Camargue
Poa annua	Annual Meadow grass	Widespread
Poa bulbosa	Bulbous Meadow Grass	Le Crau
Saccharum raennae	Elephant Grass	Widespread
Scirpus maritimus	Seaside Bulrush	Camargue
Stipa apensis	Mediterranean Needle-grass	Le Crau
Vulpia bromoides	Squirrel tail Fescue	Camargue
Vulpia ciliata	Bearded Fescue	Arles
Polygonaceae	Dock Family	
Polygonum equisetaforme	Knotweed	Arles
Polygonum maritimum	Sea Knotgrass	Camargue
Rumex acetosella sub angioicarpus	Sheep's Sorrel	Camargue
Rumex bucephalophorus	Horned Dock	Arles
Rumex crispus	Curled Dock	Widespread
Rumex hydrolapathum	Water Dock	Camargue
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved Dock	Widespread
Portulaceae		
Portulaca oleracea	Common Purslane	Arles
Primulaceae	Primrose family	
Anagallis arvensis	Scarlet Pimpernel	Arles
Angallis foemina	Blue Pimpernel	Arles
Samolus valerandi	Brookweed	Camargue

FAMILY ENGLISH NAME LOCATION

Ranunculaceae Buttercup Family

Clematis vitalbaTraveller's JoyWidespreadNigella damasceneLove-in-the-mistArles

Ranunculus aquaticusWater CrowfootArles/CamargueRanunculus arvensisCorn CrowfootCamargueRanunculus MacrophyllusLarge-leaved ButtercupWidespreadRanunculus MuricatusRough-fruited ButtercupWidespreadRanunculus paludosusJersey ButtercupCamargue

Resedaceae Mignonette Family

Reseda albaWhite MignonetteArlesReseda luteaWild MignonetteArles

Rhamnaceae Buckthorn Family

Paliurus spina-Christi Christ's Thorn Arles
Rhamnus alaternus/lycioides Mediterranean Buckthorn Widespread

Rosaceae Rose family

Crataegus monogyna Hawthorn Arles

Poterium verrucosum/ Sanguisorba minor Mediterranean Salad Burnet Camargue

Potentilla hirta Hairy Potentilla Arles

Prunus spinosa Blackthorn Widespread

Pyracantha coccinea Fire thorn Arles

Rosa agrestis Mediterranean Sweet Briar Le Crau
Rosa canina Dog Rose Arles
Rosa pimpeinellefolia Burnet Rose Le Crau
Rubus fructicosus Bramble Arles

Rubiaceae Bedstraw Family

Galium aparineCleaversWidespreadGalium uliginosumFen BedstrawCamargueSherardia arvensisField MadderArles

Saliciaceae Willow Family

Populus x canadensisHybrid Black PoplarWidespreadPopulus nigra sp ItalicaLombardy PoplarArlesSalix pedicellataMediterranean WillowCamargue

Scrophulariaceae Figwort Family

Verbascum lychnitisWhite MulleinCamargueVerbascum sinuatumWavy-leaved MulleinCamargue

Solonaceae Nightshade Family

Atropa belladonna Deadly Nightshade Camargue

Tamaricaceae Tamarisk Family

Tamarix gallica Tamarisk Widespread

Thymalaeceae Daphne Family

Daphne Gnidium Flax-leaved daphne Arles

Typhaceae Reeds and Rushes

Typha latifolia Bulrush Camargue

FAMILY ENGLISH NAME LOCATION Urticaeae **Nettle family** Parietaria judaica Pellitory-of-the-Wall Arles Parietaria officinalis Common Pellitory Arles Soleirolia soleirolii Mind-your-own-business Arles Urtica dioica Common Nettle Arles Arles/Le Crau Urtica pilulifera Roman Nettle Valerianaceae **Valerian Family** Centranthus angustifolius Narrow-leaved Valerian Le Crau Annual Valerian Centranthus calcitrapa Red Valerian Widespread Centranthus ruber Fedia cornucopiae A Fedia Valerianella locusta Common Cornsalad Arles Veronicaeae Speedwell Family Cymbalaria muralis Ivy-leaved Toadflax Arles Veronica beccabunga **Brooklime** Camargue Veronica hederifolia Ivy-leaved Speedwell Widespread Monocotyledons **Amaryllidaceae Amaryllis Family** Allium ampeloprasum Wild Leek Le Crau Naples Garlic Camargue Alliun neapolitanum Round-headed Leek Allium sphraeocephalon Camargue **Arum Family** Araceae Arum italicum sp neglectum Italian Arum Arles Arum maculatum Lords-and-Ladies Arles Asparagaceae **Asparagus Family** Aphyllanthes monspelliensis Blue grass Lily Arles Asparagus maritima Maritime Asparagus Camargue Asparagus officinalis Widespread Common Asparagus Muscari comosum Tassel Hyacinth Arles A Star of Bethlehem Ornithogalum umbellatum Arles Iridaceae Iris Family Gladiolus italicus Field Gladiolus Camargue Iris spuria subs maritima Maritime Iris Camargue Iris pseudacorus Yellow Iris Widespread Juncaceae **Rush Family** Juncus acutus Sharp Rush Camargue Juncus articulatus Jointed Rush Camargue Juncus effusus Soft Rush Widespread Sea Rush Juncus martimus Camargue Orchidaceae **Orchid Family**

Aspodelus aetivus Common Aspodel Le Crau/Camargue

Provence Orchid

Asphodel Family

Heart-flowered Orchid

Orchis provincialis

Serapias cordigera

Xanthorroeaceae

Camargue

Arles

FAMILY	ENGLISH NAME	LOCATION
Asphodelus fistulosus	Hollow-stemmed Asphodel	Camargue

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Slender-billed Gull