

Crete

Naturetrek Tour Report

10 - 17 April 2018



Baillon's Crake



Cretan Festoon



Ophrys cretica ssp. *ariadne*



Plakias Bay

Report and images by John & Jenny Willsher



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: John & Jenny Willsher (Leaders) and fourteen Naturetrek clients

Summary

Crete is the largest of the many islands of the Aegean and has long been famous for its diverse and beautiful flora and our week here did not disappoint with many flowers just reaching their peak. The abundant flora of Crete is particularly exciting, ten percent of the plants being endemic.

The formation of Crete, a continuous mountain chain with many gorges and plateaus, took place about 5 million years ago when the Mediterranean basin was flooded and this period of isolation is responsible for the islands high level of endemism in its flora.

Despite a very dry winter on parts of the island the roadsides and hills were colourful, with sweeps of yellow Crown Daisy, many pink and white cistus species, masses of yellow Jerusalem Sage, the lilac thistle Galactites and stately spikes of Giant Fennel.

The 'Orchid Hill' at Spili and the surrounding hills lived up to their reputation and we totalled 26 species of orchid, on our day there, including drifts of Naked Man orchids and many tantalising Ophrys species. The surrounding fields were dotted with the red *Tulipa doefleri* and lilac iris, Barbary Nut (*Moraea sisyrinchium*). High on the Omalos plateau we found small patches of the pink *Tulipa bakeri* and the unusual Widow Iris (*Iris tuberosus*) and the small enclosed fields were studded with lilac/pink/blue and occasionally red Crown Anemones.

Many interesting bird species were seen. A flock of 300 Glossy Ibis and smaller flocks of egrets and herons were seen in Plakias Bay and a good variety of water birds were seen at Agia Reservoir. Griffon Vultures and Common Buzzard made up most of the raptor sightings although we did see a pair of Bonelli's Eagles and a couple of Red-footed Falcons.

We started our week in the south of the island, based at Plakias, where we explored the local headlands, valleys and gorges. We travelled east to visit the archaeological site of Festos, in its beautiful hilltop location and then headed west to Chania for the last three nights of the tour. The enthusiasm and good humour of the group contributed enormously to the success of the week and it proved to be a great week of good company, birds, flowers and food!

Day 1

Tuesday 10th April

Arrive at Heraklion, transfer to hotel in Plakias.

The flight made good time and luggage retrieval was speedy so the group soon met up with John and Jenny, and Nigel and Chris who were already in Crete. Nicos from Lykno Tourism had our minibuses ready for us. Once loaded into the minibuses we were on our way west, with the backdrop of snow-capped Mt. Ida (Psiloritis) on our left. We made good time along this busy main road before turning south at Rethymnon, towards our seaside hotel in the small resort of Plakias, on the south coast of the island.

First however, on the road south of the little town of Armeni, we stopped at a cafe overlooking a verdant valley with the southern mountains beyond. It was good to sit in the sunshine - so welcome for those had just left a

cold and wet UK! While we enjoyed a drink we got to know a few local birds including Italian Sparrows, Ravens and distant Griffon Vultures. A Cirl Bunting was heard and Jenny was pleased to find some *Ophrys candida* on a bank behind the cafe. This is not a common orchid on Crete and other known local sites have been degraded in recent years.

To reach the south coast, we passed through the Kourtaliotiki Gorge, at first a narrow cleft in the mountains but opening out into a wide and dramatic rocky landscape. Here we stopped at a viewpoint where we saw a few Griffon Vultures, a pair of Red-billed Choughs, Crag Martins circling below us in the gorge, and a singing Blue Rock Thrush. At our feet, amongst the gravel, were the tiny flowers of Burnt Candytuft (*Aetheonema saxatile*), bright pink *Silene colorata*, and tight buds of the endemic *Centaurea raphanina* subsp. *raphanina* while, amongst the rocks, were bright green cushions of Greek Spiny Spurge (*Euphorbia acanthothamnos*). Just as we were about to leave, Roger spotted a distant Bonelli's Eagle. Leaving the gorge, it was a short distance to Plakias, along roadsides colourful with Giant Fennel, Crown Daisies and Jerusalem Sage.

Plakias is a delightful small town on a beautiful curved bay with the dramatic backdrop of impressive mountains. Thankfully quiet at this time of the year, we could imagine it in high season thronging with tourists enjoying the beach and bars along the seafront. As we arrived at our hotel we looked out into the bay where we watched a large flock of over 300 Glossy Ibis circling several times looking for a roosting spot. There are sadly no freshwater wet areas at Plakias so eventually they disappeared to the east. Later a lucky few saw similar behaviour by a large flock of Purple Herons which included a few Black-crowned Night Herons.

At our hotel we met up with Anthony, Maggie and Angela who had been in Plakias for a few days. After settling into our rooms with their lovely views across the bay, we walked the short distance to our seaside Gorgona restaurant, where Nicos was waiting to serve us the first of many delicious meals.

Day 2

Wednesday 11th April

Moni Preveli, Kourtaliotiko Gorge and Spili area

The day began cloudy but warm and some of the group took an early morning walk along the shore road towards the town to check the beach and stream for birds. The wayside flowers included banks of the endemic Cretan Ebony (*Ebenus creticus*) with its soft grey-green foliage, clumps of the Yellow Horned Poppy (*Glaucium flavium*), the aromatic Three-leaved Sage (*Salvia fruticosa*) and delicate spikes of *Ornithogalum creticum*. A Common Sandpiper was seen, but the main attraction was a Deaths Head Hawkmoth which settled on the underside of a tree branch on the seafront.

After breakfast, which many of us enjoyed on the terrace, we set off, firstly stopping in Plakias for picnic supplies. This allowed the rest of the group to see the moth.

Supplies on board, we set off to explore the area around Moni Preveli, to the east of Plakias. A winding road led us through olive groves, along a lush valley with riverside Plane trees (*Platanus orientalis*).

We continued through a dry stony landscape towards the monastery overlooking the sea, stopping firstly at the war memorial, where we saw Black-eared Wheatear, Corn Bunting, Crested and Woodlark. The botanists exploring the low scrubby phrygana found Syrian Thistle (*Notobasis syriaca*) and the round heads of Cretan Cotton

Thistle (*Onopordium bracteatum* ssp. *creticum*), Purple Vipers Bugloss (*Echium plantagineum*) and many small plants such as aromatic Savoury (*Satureja thimbra*), diminutive *Sideritis curvidens* and Scarlet and Blue Pimpernel.

Phrygana is the Greek equivalent to the Western Mediterranean *garrigue* – the term for the low scrubby and very scratchy plants which orchids manage to grow through. Phrygana plants include *Cistus* species, Thorny Burnet (*Sarcopoterium spinosum*), Savoury (*Satureja spinosa*) and other aromatic plants.

The atmospheric Moni Preveli, in its splendid isolation overlooking the Libyan Sea, played an important role both in the islanders rebellion against Turkish rule in the 1800's and in the evacuation of allied troops during the last war. Some of the group took a look at its well-maintained complex, while others checked the trees below the car park for migrants but just singing Goldfinches here today. We checked up towards the rocky hillside where a Black-eared Wheatear and Blue Rock Thrush were singing.

The hillsides were dotted with the shrubby yellow Jerusalem Sage (*Phlomis fruticosa*) and there were some good spikes of *Verbascum macrurum* along the roadside, with large leafy rosettes of *V. sinuatum* and the pink-flowered Mediterranean Woundwort (*Stachys cretica*) with its grey-woolly foliage. A cleared bank near the monastery car park was festooned with the invasive Hottentot Fig. Much of this habitat was still recovering from a fire a few years ago.

Retracing our steps we had a brief stop below the road where we saw a Blue Rock Thrush on a fence and fleeting glimpses of a Hoopoe. We then stopped at the Turkish Bridge and took advantage of the open cafe for refreshments. A Wood Sandpiper was seen on the river and we heard Cretan Frog. Our next stop was in the Kortaliotiko gorge where a raptor watch is usually rewarding, so we decided to have our picnic lunch there. And we were rewarded with the sight of two Bonelli's Eagles, both perched and one devouring a bird. Also seen were Griffon Vultures, Ravens, Red-billed Chough, a Blue Rock Thrush, Crag Martins and a pair of Red-rumped Swallows flying into a culvert. We then headed into the hills behind the little town of Spili.

The focus here was on the botanical riches of this now partially protected area. We parked behind the "Orchid Hill" and Jenny gave a brief description of the various types of orchids that we would find. We then slowly picked our way around this unassuming rocky mound where we found 26 species of orchids, including drifts of the pink Naked Man Orchid (*Orchis italica*), clumps of the yellow Sparse-flowered Orchid (*O. pauciflora*), Milky and Toothed Orchids (*Orchis lactea*, *O. tridentata*), many spikes of the purple Bory's Orchid (*Anacamptis boryi*), small groups of Bumblebee Orchid (*Ophrys bombyliflora*) and many handsome spikes of Cretan Bee, Bishops and Heildreich's Orchids (*Ophrys ariadne*, *O. episcopalis*, *O. heldreichii*). The surrounding fields were dotted with the red *Tulipa doefleri* and lilac Barbary Nut (*Moraea sisyrrinchium*). A Woodlark sang and Stonechats 'tacked' anxiously as they probably had young somewhere, a couple of Ravens flew over and an Ortolan Bunting briefly perched quite close to us we botanised.

We then moved to an adjacent hill to listen for Wryneck which had been very vocal a few days previously but it was not heard today, but we added Fan-lipped and Sitia's Orchid (*Anacamptis collina*, *Orchis sitiaca*) to our already impressive orchid list.

We then made our way down from the hills and returned to Plakias via the Kourtaliotiko Gorge where we stopped for an obligatory vulture watch but again the poor weather meant only one was on the wing.

We met up later in the hotel to discuss our findings of the day. Jenny talked about the different groups of orchids that we had seen and then we walked to the restaurant where Georgios welcomed us and served us another very good meal.

Day 3

Thursday 12th April

Festos and Amari Valley

After breakfast, and the usual shop for picnic supplies we headed north through the Kortiliotiki Gorge, then east through the busy little town of Spili. We made a short detour through the village of Vatos to an interesting geological site where there were amazing banks of green and black lava. A north facing meadow was studded with earlier growing orchids such as Giant Orchid (*Himantoglossum robertianum*), Fan-lipped Orchid, lovely groups of Sitia's Orchid, with its delicate folded lip, in various shades of pink, Pink Butterfly Orchid (*Anacamptis papilionacea ssp alibertis*) and a hybrid between the latter and Boryi's (*A. papilionacea* x *A. boryi*).

Before reaching the archaeological site of Festos (Phaestos) we had to cross the fertile plain of Mesara, and through the busy town of Timbaki with its unattractive sprawl of plastic greenhouses. Festos is one of four palaces built around 1900 BC by the Minoan civilisation on Crete, and was the second largest and most important, the largest being Knossos. There has been no large scale reconstruction here, as there has been at Knossos. Until 180BC, Festos remained an independent city and minted its own coinage. Its commanding hilltop situation has wonderful views out across the plain to Mount Ida. After exploring the ruins we gathered in the shade of the attendant cafe to appreciate the view which with today's hot weather was somewhat hazy, this being due in part to dust drifting up from the Sahara.

By now it was approaching midday and the temperature was rising so we headed down to the coast north of Timbaki, having our picnic near the lagoons at the back of the beach which proved very productive for birds. This is a rare habitat on Crete and yielded up many new birds for our list. Squacco Herons, another big flock of Glossy Ibis, two Black-winged Stilts, Greenshanks, Little Stints, Little Ringed Plovers, several Wood Sandpipers Black-headed Yellow Wagtail and two Marsh Sandpipers. Some Ruff arrived and out to sea there were some very distant large flocks of ducks which were hard to identify but certainly contained some Garganey.

After lunch we spent the rest of the afternoon meandering through the Amari valley, between Mount Ida and the southern Mount Kedros, enjoying the ever-changing scenery and the quiet rural life of inland Crete. There were many small villages set amongst olive groves, and almond and cherry orchards, and the occasional Byzantine church. Also some very floristic patches which tempted us to explore! One bank was dotted with buds of Pink Butterfly Orchid and another with various Orchid and Serapias species – mostly *Serapias lingua* and *S. bergonii*. We stopped at the little church of Agios Ioannis in the lush green valley below Kardhaki enjoying the shade provided by a large oak tree from where we could scan the mountain above perhaps for Golden Eagle or Lammergeier, but no luck today.

We eventually reached the little town of Gerakari, famous for its cherries, before heading back to Plakias.

Day 4

Friday 13th April

Kotsiphos Gorge, Frangokastello, Imbros Gorge

Today after stopping in Plakias to admire 27 Little Egrets resting and preening on a large rock just offshore we set off westwards, on the twisting, scenic road that follows the coast to Frangokastello through the hillside villages of Selia, Rodakino and Skaloti. We stopped at various points for opportunistic stops for birds and flowers. The hillsides were dotted with elegant spikes of Common Asphodel. Our first stop at the lower end of the Kotsiphos Gorge only produced Stonechats and a lone Chukar, one singing from a rock, but amongst the rocky scree on the roadside was a lovely spike of *Campanula tubulosa*.

Birds were scarce as we made our way along the coast road but we did see Crested Larks, Black-eared Wheatears, a Red-rumped Swallow and heard Woodlark

At another stop to look at the endemic plant Wall Lettuce (*Petromarula pinnata*), we also found the delightful small flowered shrub *Hypericum empetrifolium* ssp *oliganthum*, another endemic, with lovely bushes of Sage-leaved Cistus (*C. salvifolius*) and pink flowered *C. creticus*.

At Frangokastello the striking 14th Century fortress overlooks a lovely sandy bay. It was built by the Venetians as a defence against pirates and the rebellious Sfakiots. In the 1800s a bloody battle was fought here between the Cretans and the Turks. It is a shell of a building now, sometimes used for concerts.

We had coffee and drinks at a cafe very near the castle. Chris slipped off to the beach for a swim and was quickly followed by Angela, Michaela and Jenny. In the scrub between the cafe and the sea a Great Reed Warbler was found and a couple of Black-crowned Night Herons flew past. Later we were comfortably enjoying our drinks when Roger shouted "That was a nightjar!" This bird had dropped into the undergrowth just in front of the cafe terrace. After a little investigation we all saw said Nightjar with its obvious white spots in the wing fly up and past the cafe. The cafe owner kindly let us use their tables to have our picnic on and some of the group indulged in cakes from the bakery.

We then spent the afternoon exploring the lowest part of the Imbros Gorge, looking at the *chasmophytes*, the plants that thrive on gorge walls where they cannot be nibbled by the many goats that roam the island. Large clumps of Caper and Wall Lettuce hung off the cliffs. Amongst the bushes of Chaste Tree (*Vitex agnus-castus*) – (so called because in the past it was thought to be an anti-aphrodisiac which the Crusaders gave their wives before they went off!) were a few spikes of the dramatic Dragon Arum (*Dranunculus vulgaris*) with its huge purple red spathe. Other plants included Nettle-leaved Figwort, Fig and Carob, Cretan Gorge Comfrey (*Procopiana cretica*), Cretan Ebony, small clumps of the endemic *Campanula tubulosa*, the aromatic Savory and soft white spikes of *Scutellaria sieberi*. Above the gorge were a few Griffon Vultures and in the gorge we saw two Common Redstarts, a Blue Rock Thrush, and Wrens were heard calling from amongst the rocks. Overhead six Glossy Ibis flew high up the gorge.

We enjoyed a drink in a cafe at the bottom of the gorge then set off back the way we had come, stopping only for a Woodchat Shrike on a roadside fence, before continuing to the hotel for our last evening in Plakias.

Day 5

Saturday 14th April

Armani, Georgiopolis and Chania

After breakfast we had our final walk out towards the headland at the east end of Plakias Bay. Primarily for some special plants and the spectacular view across the bay we did have a pair of Red-billed Choughs flying over and found Kestrel, Blue Rock Thrush and a Black-eared Wheatear.

The predominant plant here was Tree Euphorbia (*E. dendroides*), but on the rock walls and amongst the phrygana plants we found the strange *Aristolochia cretica*, many spikes of Pyramidal Orchid, the seedheads of the rare Cretan Rock Tulip, buds of the endemic *Campanula saxatilis* and Cretan Vipers Grass (*Scorzonera cretica*). The dramatic cliff walls were dotted with clumps of Shrubby Mullein (*Verbascum arcturus*) and the sand dunes below held typical seaside plants such as the low growing Dune Carrot (*Pseudorhiza pumila*) with its spiny seeds, Sea Spurge (*E. peplus*), Sea Medick (*Medicago marina*), Sea Stock (*Mathiola sinuata*), Sea rocket (*Cakile maritima*) and the pale blue spikes of *Muscari spreitzenhoferi*. Also masses of leaves of the autumn flowering Sea Daffodil (*Pancratium maritimum*), which dot the back of the beach under the tamarisk trees.

Sadly we then had to leave the now picture postcard blue sea and attractive little town of Plakias. At the southern side of the Kotsiphos gorge we stopped for a last look but no Bearded Vulture today just a brief snatch of Scops Owl call from down in the gorge.

So we made our way back to the main road to Rethymnon and headed for our next stop - north of Armeni at the late Minoan cemetery site. This peaceful site is canopied by Valonia Oak (*Quercus macrolepsis*), with its large shaggy acorn cups. The galls from the trees were once an important export for the tanning industry. The vegetation around the intriguing grave sites was lush with flowers including many vetches, Common Asphodel (*Asphodelus aestivus*), *Ornithogalum narbonense*, Barbary Nut (*Moraea sisyrinchium*) and a few orchids, including good spikes of Giant Orchid, Bishop's and Heildreichs Ophrys, drifts of Naked Man Orchid, *Serepias lingua* and *S. bergonii*. In the oaks Chaffinches and tits were busy collecting food for their young

Our usual friendly taverna was very busy preparing for a christening party later in the day so could not provide drinks but were happy for us to use their terrace tables and facilities. After lunch we continued north to Rethymnon before turning west, before we reached the reservoir at Georgiopolis. Here there were Coot, Moorhen, Little Grebe and Little Egret, while around the shore basking in the sunshine were several Balkan (Striped-necked) Terrapins.

It was then on to Chania. We stopped for a short walk through the quiet and peaceful Souda Bay War Cemetery, the burial site for 1500 Allied soldiers who died in the 1941 Battle of Crete – a significant event in Crete's recent history. Anthony gave a brief overview of the work of the War Grave Commission which helped us put this moving place into context. Down on the shore a Greenshank and Little Ringed Plover were seen and in the gardens a Tree Pipit.

We then headed for our comfortable hotel which was once the British Consulate, with its imposing colonnaded façade. After discussing the day's sightings with a drink in the hotel garden, we walked into the old city of Chania, skirting the bustling harbour with its many busy bars and restaurants, before reaching the Semiramis

restaurant. The open air location meant we could enjoy the spectacle of swifts screaming overhead while we made our choices from a comprehensive menu of traditional dishes.

Day 6

Sunday 15th April

Agia Reservoir, Omalos Plateau

After a very substantial and satisfying breakfast, we headed south-west, out of Chania, firstly stopping at Agia Reservoir. There were huge stands of Giant Reed (*Arundo donax*) and the water was edged with Common Reed. Here we watched Squacco Herons near the dam, Sedge Warblers were singing from the reeds and Cetti's Warblers uttered their loud songs. Several duck species were present including Pintail, Mallard, Pochard and several Garganey. On the spillway a Marsh Sandpiper was feeding and around the main reservoir another and also three Wood Sandpipers. On the far side in a dead tree a Grey Heron and a single Black-crowned Night Heron perched. On the water there were numerous Coots and Moorhens and in the reeds on the far side we glimpsed a Purple Heron and hunting over the reeds a Marsh Harrier. We spent a long time trying to get good views of several Little Crakes that were creeping through the vegetation at the water's edge then rapidly running across openings in the vegetation making themselves very hard to see and photograph. We were rewarded however when one turned out to be a Baillon's Crake.

We then made our way up to the Omalos Plateau, the scenic road winding through orange and olive groves and small villages including Lakki which sits dramatically on a ridge with stunning views both below and above. We stopped for a welcome coffee and comfort stop at the tiny village of Omalos.

One of the botanical highlights of the stark beauty of the Omalos in early spring is the pink *Tulipa bakeri* and though the main drifts were past their best we managed to find small groups of this lovely flower, mostly thriving in areas fenced off from the grazing goats and sheep. The small fields were dotted with the colourful *Anemone coronaria*, in various shades of blue and pink, and occasionally red. Jenny encouraged everyone to search the low turf for the diminutive purple Romulea and Ken found one spike of the locally endemic White Mountain Crocus (*C. sieberi ssp sieberi*) The very spiny lemon yellow Cretan Barberry (*Berberis cretica*) was thriving, obviously too prickly even for the goats!

Then we moved on to the head of the Samaria Gorge, where we had our picnic on the cafe tables. Above us the Cretan Maple (*Acer sempervirens*) and the endemic *Zelkova abelica* were just coming into leaf. This attractive small-leaved tree is only found in the mountains of Crete and is the only representative in Europe of an Asiatic genus. It was traditionally used to make shepherds crooks.

Amongst the masses of pure white Cretan Mouse-ear (*Cerastium scaposum*) in the turf here were a few orchids and in the shelter of a ruined building we found good spikes of the very local *Arum idaeum* with its distinctive white spathe and brown spadix. The stunning view into the gorge is across much scree and clumps of *Cupressus sempervirens var. horizontalis*. There we searched, unfortunately unsuccessfully, for any Kri Kri, the Cretan Wild Goat, on the vast cliffs opposite. The area is a UNESCO Biosphere reserve for this elusive, long-time descendent from ancient Minoan feral goats.

We then moved on around the plateau, stopping for more patches of tulips and anemones. One area had lush clumps of the bright yellow lily *Gagea chrysantha* and small groups of the unusual green and brown Widow Iris (*Iris tuberosus*).

Later in the gorge leading down from the plateau the scenery is quite dramatic – pale grey limestone rocks studded with Cypress trees. Retracing our steps we headed back to Chania. After discussing the day over drinks in the hotel garden we walked a short way from the hotel to a small restaurant overlooking the bay. The owner was charming and amusing and had us laughing while sorting out our various orders. His efficient staff served us a very good meal.

Day 7

Monday 16th April

Akrotiri Peninsula

Our last full day in Crete - today we headed for the Akrotiri peninsula. We took the airport road out of Chania and then the 'Monastery route'. The first of this trio of monasteries is the handsome 17th century Moni Agias Triadas, still an active monastery producing many local products such as oil, wine and raki. It is surrounded by orange and olive groves and a vineyard which can be good for birdwatching for those who prefer not to visit the buildings. Firstly we foraged in some waste ground near the orchards where we found many spikes of *Serapias lingua*, Spotted Rockrose, Prassium, *Fumana arabica*, Naples Garlic, Tassel Hyacinth and *Ophrys cretica*. As we returned to the vehicles a Serin was singing and on a distant wire was a line of doves, surely Collared, but no, all 14 were Turtle Doves - a really good number to see together.

Driving on towards Moni Agia Triada we parked so some could visit the monastery while others checked the surroundings. Numerous noisy Italian Sparrows were nesting in the roof of the building and a Woodchat Shrike was seen. Later as we moved on upwards past very old Olive trees we stopped to look at two distant falcons which proved to be Red-footed Falcons.

The second monastery is the 16th century Moni Gouvernetou, which is not such an appealing building but it's enclosed garden can sometimes be very productive for birds, sadly today all was quiet apart from the resident turkey.

For the energetic there was a rocky and sometimes steep track down to the third monastery – the ruins of Moni Katholikou at the northern tip of the peninsular. The track can be rich in plant life and many of the group enjoyed this exploration amongst the phrygana bushes of Greek Spiny Spurge, the white flowered Prassium and the fragrant Hairy Thorny Broom (*Calicotome villosa*). We found many tiny plants including the delicate *Vicia cretica*, scrambling up through the scrub, *Ophrys sicula*, Cretan Mallow, the tiny umbellifer Fluffy Thimbleweed (*Lagoecia cuminooides*), Dwarf Spurge (*Euphorbia exigua*), the intriguing Birdcage Thistle (*Atractylis cancellata*), so called as the developing bud is protected by a cage of prickly sepals, Small Restharrow (*Ononis reclinata*), and as usual, many other vetches. On the way down we suddenly heard the calls of distant Bee-eaters and eventually we spotted them down in the valley, some sitting in a dead bush and others hawking for insects - probably about 20 in total.

Returning back up as we approached the top the wind rapidly increased alternately blowing hot then cold. It became quite violent but reduced as we reached the vans and we then travelled down through the gorge back to

the south side of the mountain ridge. We had been experiencing very hazy conditions for several days caused by Saharan dust so maybe this was a Sirocco wind being locally increased by the topography of the area.

Later we had our picnic amongst the ancient olive groves and handsome Carob trees. Dotted around were many plants of Dragon Arum (*Dracunculus vulgaris*) with its malodorous flower spike. Just as we were leaving a fine male Pied Flycatcher was spotted in the lower branches of an old olive - a good migrant to finish.

We then returned early to the hotel so that we could explore part of the ancient city of Chania, before meeting at the restaurant. Chania (Hania) is an atmospheric ancient city with remnants of Venetian walls and townhouses, many now tastefully turned into hotels or open air restaurants. The town has a tradition of artisanship which fills the old city with a bewildering choice of craft shops. The prominent former mosque on the harbour-front is evidence of past Turkish rule.

Some of the group enjoyed a fascinating talk demonstrating the Cretan tradition of icon making (very similar to classic Russian icons of religious figures painted on gold). Margarita talked through the lengthy process of layering different mediums on to the wooden blocks, including clay mixed with egg white and then raki to help the gold leaf stick. She then uses traditional earth minerals for the colours. Two of us were tempted to buy one of a range of small icons depicting classic Cretan plants such as olive, lemon, grapes or pomegranate.

A few preferred another look at Agia reservoir with more great views of Garganey and Little Crake, one bird spending a lot of time out in the open feeding on the floating algae. A Peregrine Falcon caused chaos as it grabbed something and flew off.

We enjoyed our last evening in Chania in the Semiramis restaurant to the accompaniment of doves flapping and the swifts screaming in the sky above us.

Day 8

Tuesday 17th April

Flight home

Today we left our hotel in Chania, to head for Knossos and then Iraklion airport and our flight home. We said goodbye to Nigel and Chris who were staying on in Chania as their flight to Bristol was the next day. It was a beautiful sunny day and the scenic views of the coast, mountains and hills were lovely.

Knossos was once the Minoan capital of Crete and is now the island's major tourist attraction. The ruins were uncovered in 1900 by the British archaeologist Sir Arthur Evans. His 'realistic' restoration of the site continues to be controversial, but nevertheless it is an attractive site shaded by pine trees.

After our cultural interlude we headed for the airport, where we said farewell to Anthony, Maggie and Angela, also on the Bristol flight, and sadly prepared to leave the lovely friendly island of Crete.

Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit www.naturetrek.co.uk to sign up.

Species Lists

Plants (• = endemic or near endemic to Crete; ‡ = cultivated or naturalised)

Plant classification largely follows the familiar 'old' system, likely to be encountered in current floras of the region.

Recent taxonomic changes have been incorporated, where relevant. For ease of reference, families genera and species are presented in alphabetic order

Scientific name	Common name	Notes
LYCOPODIOPSIDA		
CLUBMOSES		
Selaginellaceae	Lesser Clubmoss Family	
<i>Selaginella denticulata</i>	Mediterranean Clubmoss	Spili and Imbros
EQUISETOPSIDA		
HORSETAILS		
Equisetaceae	Horsetail Family	
<i>Equisetum ramosissimum</i>	Branched Horsetail	Spili
<i>Equisetum telmateia</i>	Giant Horsetail	Agia
PTEROPSIDA		
FERNS		
Aspleniaceae	Spleenwort Family	
<i>Asplenium ceterach</i>	Rustyback	Akrotiri
Dennstaedtiaceae	Bracken Family	
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	Armeni
PINOPSIDA		
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	Omalos
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> forma. <i>sempervirens</i> ‡	Italian Cypress	"
<i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i> subsp. <i>oxycedrus</i>	Prickly Juniper	Nr Moni Preveli
<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i> subsp. <i>phoenicea</i>	Phoenicean Juniper	"
Pinaceae	Pine Family	
<i>Pinus halepensis</i> subsp. <i>brutia</i>	Calabrian Pine	
<i>Pinus pinea</i> ‡	Stone Pine	
MAGNOLIOPSIDA		
FLOWERING PLANTS		
MAGNOLIIDAE		
DICOTYLEDONS		
Acanthaceae	Bear's-breech Family	
<i>Acanthus spinosus</i>	Spiny Bear's-breech	Roadsides
Aceraceae	Maple Family	
<i>Acer sempervirens</i>	Cretan Maple	Omalos

Scientific name	Common name	Notes
Aizoaceae	Dewplant Family	
<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i> var. <i>edulis</i> ‡	Yellow Hottentot-fig	Planted near buildings and beaches
<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i> var. <i>rubescens</i> ‡		"
<i>Mesembryanthemum crystallinum</i>	Ice Plant	"
<i>Mesembryanthemum nodiflorum</i>		"
Amaranthaceae	Amaranth Family	
<i>Amaranthus retroflexus</i> ‡	Pigweed	
Anacardiaceae	Sumach Family	
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastic Tree	Seen widely
<i>Pistacia terebinthus</i>	Turpentine Tree	"
<i>Schinus molle</i> ‡	Californian Pepper Tree	Agia
Apiaceae	Carrot Family	
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	Rock Samphire	Gerani
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot	Roadsides
<i>Daucus guttatus</i>	A Wild Carrot	"
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	Field Eryngo	"
<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Sea Holly	Gerani, Frangocastello
<i>Ferula communis</i>	Giant Fennel	Roadsides
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i> subsp. <i>piperatum</i>	Fennel	Seen occasionally
<i>Lagoecia cuminoides</i>	Fluffy Thimbleweed	Akrotiri
<i>Pseudorhiza pumila</i>	Dune Carrot	Plakias
<i>Scaligeria napiformis</i>	Scaligeria	
<i>Scandix australis</i>	Southern Shepherd's-needle	
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's-needle	
<i>Smyrniolus olusatrum</i>	Alexanders	Seen regularly
<i>Smyrniolus perfoliatum</i> subsp. <i>perfoliatum</i>	Perfoliate Alexanders	Seen widely
<i>Smyrniolus perfoliatum</i> subsp. <i>rotundifolium</i>	Perfoliate Alexanders	"
Apocynaceae	Periwinkle Family	
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander	Seen widely – planted
<i>Vinca major</i> ‡	Greater Periwinkle	"
Araliaceae	Ivy Family	
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	Seen regularly
Aristolochiaceae	Birthwort Family	
<i>Aristolochia cretica</i> •	Cretan Birthwort	Plakias headland
<i>Aristolochia sempervirens</i>	Evergreen Birthwort	Agia
Asteraceae	Daisy Family	
<i>Achillea cretica</i>	Cretan Sneezewort	Akrotiri
<i>Anthemis arvensis</i>	Corn Chamomile	Seen regularly
<i>Anthemis chia</i>	Greek Chamomile	"
<i>Anthemis rigida</i>	Rayless Chamomile	"
<i>Atractylis cancellata</i>	Bird-Cage Thistle	Akrotiri
<i>Bellis annua</i>	Annual Daisy	Seen regularly
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	"
<i>Bellis sylvestris</i>	Southern Daisy	"

Scientific name	Common name	Notes
<i>Bellium minus</i>		"
<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Field Marigold	"
<i>Carlina corymbosa</i> subsp. <i>graeca</i>	A Flat-topped Carlina Thistle	
<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>	Red Star-thistle	
<i>Centaurea raphanina</i> subsp. <i>raphanina</i> •		Kortiliotiki Gorge
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Chicory	
<i>Cichorium spinosum</i>	Spiny Chicory	
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	
<i>Crupina crupinastrum</i>	Crupina	Thin stemmed small thistle
<i>Cynara cornigera</i>	Wild Artichoke	
<i>Cynara scolymus</i> ‡	Globe Artichoke	Planted
<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	Stink Aster	Leaves only, very pungent
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Galactites	Lilac, 'soft' thistle
<i>Geropogon glaber</i>	Slender Salsify	
<i>Glebionis coronaria</i> var. <i>coronaria</i>	Crown Daisy	Roadsides
<i>Glebionis coronaria</i> var. <i>discolor</i>	Crown Daisy	"
<i>Glebionis segetum</i>	Corn Marigold	"
<i>Helminthotheca echioides</i>	Bristly Oxtongue	
<i>Hypochaeris achyrophorus</i>	Mediterranean Cat's-ear	
<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>	Smooth Cat's-ear	
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Common Cat's-ear	
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Prickly Lettuce	
<i>Matricaria recutita</i>	Scented Mayweed	
<i>Notobasis syriaca</i>	Syrian Thistle	Elegant thistle with pink bracts
<i>Otanthus maritimus</i>	Cottonweed	
<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>	Spiny Golden-star	Spiny bracts, yellow flower
<i>Phagnalon graecum</i>	Shrubby Cudweed	
<i>Picnomon acarna</i>	Yellow-spine Thistle	Leaves and spines only
<i>Ptilostemon chamaepeuce</i>	Shrubby Ptilostemon	Just coming into flower
<i>Rhagadiolus stellatus</i>	Star Hawkbit	
<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>	Spanish Oyster Plant	Leaves only,
<i>Scorzonera cretica</i> •	Cretan Viper's-grass	Plakias headland
<i>Senecio rupestris</i>	Rock Groundsel	
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel	
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle	Leaves only,
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly Sow-thistle	
<i>Tanacetum parthenium</i> ‡	Feverfew	
<i>Tolpis barbata</i>	Tolpis	
<i>Tragopogon porrifolius</i>	Salsify	
<i>Xanthium spinosum</i> ‡	Spiny Cocklebur	
Berberidaceae	Barberry Family	
<i>Berberis cretica</i>	Cretan Barberry	Omalos
Bignoniaceae	Jacaranda Family	
<i>Jacaranda ovalifolia</i> ‡	Jacaranda	Planted
Boraginaceae	Borage Family	
<i>Anchusa hybrida</i>	Wavy-leaved Anchusa	
<i>Anchusa aegyptiaca</i>	Eastern Alkanet	Small plant, white flowers
<i>Anchusa italica</i>	Large Blue Alkanet	Roadsides, tall
<i>Anchusa variegata</i>	Variegated Anchusa	Small plant, pale flowers with purple marks
<i>Borago officinalis</i>	Borage	Seen regularly

Scientific name	Common name	Notes
<i>Cerintho major</i>	Honeywort	"
<i>Cynoglossum columnae</i>	A Hound's-tongue	"
<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	Blue Hound's-tongue	"
<i>Echium angustifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved Bugloss	Seen near Festos, pink flowers
<i>Echium arenarium</i>	Sand Bugloss	Sand dunes, Plakias
<i>Echium italicum</i> subsp. <i>biebersteinii</i>	Pale Bugloss	Roadsides
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Viper's Bugloss	Seen widely
<i>Myosotis incassata</i>	A Forget-me-not	
<i>Neostema apulum</i>	Yellow Gromwell	
<i>Onosma graecum</i>	A Golden-drops	Late Minoan Cemetery
<i>Symphytum creticum</i>	Cretan Comfrey	Imbros Gorge
Brassicaceae	Cabbage Family	
<i>Aethionema saxatile</i> subsp. <i>creticum</i>	Burnt Candytuft	Kortilioiki Gorge
<i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i>	Thale Cress	
<i>Arabis verna</i>	Spring Rock-cress	
<i>Aubrieta deltoidea</i>	Aubretia	Omalos
<i>Aurinia saxatilis</i>	Yellow Alyssum	
<i>Biscutella didyma</i>	Buckler Mustard	
<i>Brassica cretica</i>	Cretan Cabbage	
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sea Rocket	Frangocastello
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's-purse	
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	Hairy Bitter-cress	
<i>Cheiranthus cheiri</i> ‡	Wallflower	
<i>Eruca sativa</i>	Garden Rocket	
<i>Lepidium draba</i>	Hoary Cress	
<i>Lunaria annua</i> subsp. <i>pachyrhiza</i>	Honesty	
<i>Malcolmia chia</i>	A Malcomia	
<i>Matthiola sinuata</i>	Sea Stock	Frangocastello
<i>Matthiola tricuspidata</i>	Three-horned Stock	
<i>Nasturtium officinale</i>	Water-cress	
Cactaceae	Cactus Family	
<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i> ‡	Prickly Pear	Planted widely
Campanulaceae	Bellflower Family	
<i>Campanula erinus</i>	Annual Bellflower	Tiny flowers
<i>Campanula tubulosa</i> •		Imbros, Plakias headland
<i>Legousia hybrida</i>		
<i>Petromarula pinnata</i> •	Petromarula	Seen occasionally
Capparaceae	Caper Family	
<i>Capparis spinosa</i>	Caper	Imbros Gorge
Caprifoliaceae	Honeysuckle Family	
<i>Lonicera etrusca</i>	Etruscan Honeysuckle	
<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Dwarf Elder	
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> ‡	Elder	
Caryophyllaceae	Pink Family	
<i>Cerastium scaposum</i> •	Cretan Mouse-ear	Omalos
<i>Dianthus fruticosus</i> subsp. <i>creticus</i> •	A Shrubby Pink	
<i>Moenchia graeca</i>	An Upright Chickweed	

Scientific name	Common name	Notes
<i>Paronychia macrosepala</i>	A Paronychia	
<i>Petrorhagia velutina</i>	Kohlruschia	A tiny pink
<i>Silene colorata</i>	Mediterranean Catchfly	Striped calyx
<i>Silene gallica</i>	Small-flowered Catchfly	One-sided flower spike
<i>Silene sedoides</i>	Hairy Catchfly	
<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder Campion	
<i>Spergula arvensis</i>	Corn Spurrey	
<i>Spergularia bocconeii</i>	A Sea Spurrey	
<i>Stellaria cupaniana</i>	A Chickweed	
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common Chickweed	
Chenopodiaceae	Goosefoot Family	
<i>Beta vulgaris</i> subsp. <i>maritima</i>	Sea Beet	
<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Fat-hen	
<i>Chenopodium murale</i>	Nettle-leaved Goosefoot	
<i>Salsola kali</i>	Prickly Saltwort	
<i>Suaeda vera</i>	Shrubby Sea-blite	
Cistaceae	Rock-rose Family	
<i>Cistus creticus</i>	Pink Cistus	Large pink flowers
<i>Cistus parviflorus</i>	Small-flowered Cistus	Small pink flowers, greyish foliage
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>	Sage-leaved Cistus	White flowers
<i>Fumana arabica</i>	Arabian Fumana	Warm yellow flowers, Akrotiri
<i>Tuberaria guttata</i>	Spotted Rock-rose	Akrotiri
Convolvulaceae	Bindweed Family	
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Bindweed	Roadsides
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	"
<i>Convolvulus elegantissimus</i>	Elegant Bindweed	"
<i>Cuscuta epithimum</i>	Common Dodder	"
<i>Ipomea indica</i> †	A Morning Glory	Timbaki town
Crassulaceae	Stonecrop Family	
<i>Sedum acre</i>	Biting Stonecrop	
<i>Sedum litoreum</i>	Coastal Stonecrop	
<i>Sedum rubens</i>	Red Stonecrop	
<i>Sedum sediforme</i>	Mediterranean Stonecrop	
<i>Umbilicus horizontalis</i>	A Pennywort	
<i>Umbilicus parviflorus</i>	Yellow Pennywort	
Cucurbitaceae	Cucumber Family	
<i>Bryonia cretica</i>	White Bryony	
<i>Ecballium elaterium</i>	Squirting Cucumber	
Dipsacaceae	Teasel Family	
<i>Knautia integrifolia</i>	A Scabious	Seen regularly
<i>Lomelosia brachiata</i>	Tremastelma	Plakias headland
Ericaceae	Heather Family	
<i>Arbutus andrachne</i>	Eastern Strawberry Tree	
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry Tree	
<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree Heather	Road to Omalos
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family	

Scientific name	Common name	Notes
<i>Euphorbia acanthothamnos</i>	Greek Spiny Spurge	Bright green 'cushions'
<i>Euphorbia characias</i> subsp. <i>characias</i>	Large Mediterranean Spurge	Seen regularly
<i>Euphorbia dendroides</i>	Tree Spurge	"
<i>Euphorbia exigua</i>	Dwarf Spurge	Akrotiri
<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	Sun Spurge	Seen regularly
<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	Sea Spurge	Plakias sand dunes
<i>Mercurialis annua</i>	Annual Mercury	
<i>Ricinus communis</i> ‡	Castor-oil-plant	
Fabaceae	Pea Family	
<i>Anagyris foetida</i>	Bean Trefoil	
<i>Anthyllis tetraphylla</i>	Bladder Vetch	
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i> subsp. <i>rubriflora</i>	A Kidney Vetch	
<i>Astragalus angustifolius</i>	A Milk-vetch	
<i>Bituminaria bituminosa</i>	Pitch Trefoil	Blue flowers
<i>Calicotome villosa</i>	Hairy Thorny Broom	
<i>Ceratonina siliqua</i>	Carob	Tree with large glossy leaves
<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i> ‡	Judas Tree	Pink flowers on the branches
<i>Coronilla scorpioides</i>	Annual Scorpion Vetch	
<i>Ebenus cretica</i> •	Shrubby Sainfoin	Masses at Plakias
<i>Genista acanthoclada</i>	Spiny Broom	
<i>Hymenocarpus circinnatus</i>	Disc Trefoil	
<i>Lathyrus annuus</i>	Annual Vetchling	
<i>Lathyrus aphaca</i>	Yellow Vetchling	
<i>Lathyrus clymenum</i>	Crimson Pea	
<i>Lathyrus ochrus</i>	Winged Vetchling	
<i>Lathyrus setifolius</i>	Red Vetchling	
<i>Lotus conimbricensis</i>	A Bird's-foot Trefoil	
<i>Lotus ornithopodioides</i>	Clustered Bird's-foot Trefoil	
<i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil	
<i>Lotus peregrinus</i>	A Bird's-foot Trefoil	
<i>Lupinus angustifolius</i>	Narrow-leaved Lupin	
<i>Lupinus micranthus</i>	A Hairy Lupin	
<i>Medicago arabica</i>	Spotted Medick	
<i>Medicago arborea</i>	Tree Medick	Orange flowers
<i>Medicago disciformis</i>	Disc Medick	
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black Medick	
<i>Medicago marina</i>	Sea Medick	Plakias sand dunes
<i>Medicago murex</i>	A Bur Medick	
<i>Medicago orbicularis</i>	Disc Medick	
<i>Medicago polymorpha</i>	Toothed Medick	
<i>Onobrychis caput-galli</i>	Cock's-comb Sainfoin	
<i>Ononis reclinata</i>	Small Restharrow	Akrotiri
<i>Ononis spinosa</i> subsp. <i>diacantha</i>	Spiny Restharrow	
<i>Ornithopus compressus</i>	Compressed Bird's-foot	
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> ‡	False Acacia	Roadsides, planted
<i>Scorpiurus muricatus</i>	Scorpion Vetch	
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom	Roadsides, planted
<i>Tetragonolobus purpureus</i>	Asparagus Pea	Blood red flowers
<i>Trifolium angustifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved Clover	
<i>Trifolium arvense</i>	Hare's-foot Clover	
<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Hop Trefoil	
<i>Trifolium fragiferum</i>	Strawberry Clover	

Scientific name	Common name	Notes
<i>Trifolium nigrescens</i>	Annual White Clover	
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	
<i>Trifolium resupinatum</i>	Reversed Clover	
<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>	Starry Clover	
<i>Trifolium uniflorum</i>	One-flowered Clover	Low, compact cushions
<i>Vicia cretica</i>	Cretan Vetch	Delicate plant, Akrotiri
<i>Vicia hybrida</i>	Hairy Yellow Vetchling	
<i>Vicia sativa</i> subsp. <i>sativa</i> ‡	Common Vetch	
<i>Wisteria sinensis</i> ‡	Wisteria	Planted widely
Fagaceae	Beech Family	
<i>Castanea sativa</i> ‡	Sweet Chestnut	
<i>Quercus coccifera</i> subsp. <i>calliprinos</i>	Kermes Oak	
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holm Oak	
<i>Quercus ithaburensis</i> subsp. <i>macrolepis</i>	Valonia Oak	Late Minoan Cemetery
Gentianaceae	Gentian Family	
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i> subsp. <i>intermedia</i>	Yellow-wort	Plakias Headland
<i>Centaureum erythraea</i>	Common Centaury	"
Geraniaceae	Crane's-bill Family	
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Stork's-bill	Seen regularly
<i>Erodium gruinum</i>	Long-beaked Stork's-bill	"
<i>Erodium malacoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Stork's-bill	"
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill	"
<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	Shining Crane's-bill	"
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	"
<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	Little Robin	"
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	"
<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved Crane's-bill	"
Juglandaceae	Walnut Family	
<i>Juglans regia</i> ‡	Walnut	
Lamiaceae	Dead-nettle Family	
<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	Henbit Dead-nettle	Seen regularly
<i>Lavandula stoechas</i>	French Lavender	"
<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	White Horehound	"
<i>Origanum vulgare</i> subsp. <i>hirtum</i>	Marjoram	"
<i>Phlomis cretica</i>	Cretan Jerusalem Sage	Seen widely
<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	Jerusalem Sage	"
<i>Phlomis lanata</i> •	Wooly Sage	Roadsides near Iraklion
<i>Prasium majus</i>	Prasium	Seen widely
<i>Prunella lacinata</i>	Cut-leaved Self-heal	
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-heal	
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Rosemary	Seen widely
<i>Salvia fruticosa</i>	Three-lobed Sage	Seen widely, pink flowers
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	Wild Clary	
<i>Salvia viridis</i>	Red-topped Sage	
<i>Satureja thymbra</i>	Satureia/ Summer Savoury	Seen widely, very aromatic
<i>Scutellaria sieberi</i> •	A Skullcap	Imbros Gorge
<i>Stachys cretica</i> subsp. <i>cretica</i>	Mediterranean Woundwort	Leaves only, very woolly

Scientific name	Common name	Notes
<i>Teucrium microphyllum</i> <i>Thymbra capitata</i>	Small-leaved Germander Mediterranean Thyme	
Lauraceae <i>Laurus nobilis</i>	Laurel Family Bay	
Linaceae <i>Linum arboreum</i> <i>Linum bienne</i> <i>Linum pubescens</i> <i>Linum strictum</i>	Flax Family Shrubby Flax Biennial Flax Hairy Flax Upright Yellow Flax	Kotsiphos Gorge, yellow flowers Small flowers
Malvaceae <i>Lavatera arborea</i> <i>Lavatera cretica</i> <i>Malva cretica</i> <i>Malva parviflora</i> <i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Mallow Family Tree Mallow Cretan Hollyhock Cretan Mallow Least Mallow Common Mallow	Seen regularly " " " "
Meliaceae <i>Melia azedarach</i> ‡	Mahogany Family Persian Lilac	Planted
Moraceae <i>Ficus carica</i> <i>Ficus elastica</i> ‡ <i>Morus alba</i> ‡	Mulberry Family Fig Rubber Plant White Mulberry	Planted " "
Myoporaceae <i>Myoporum laetum</i> ‡	Myoporum Family Ngaio	Planted
Myrtaceae <i>Callistemon viminalis</i> ‡ <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> ‡ <i>Myrtus communis</i>	Myrtle Family Bottlebrush River Red Gum Common Myrtle	Planted " "
Nyctaginaceae <i>Bougainvillea glabra</i> ‡	Bougainvillea Family Bougainvillea	Planted
Oleaceae <i>Olea europaea</i> subsp. <i>oleaster</i>	Olive Family Wild Olive	Seen regularly
Orobanchaceae <i>Orobanche crenata</i> <i>Orobanche pubescens</i> <i>Orobanche ramosa</i> <i>Orobanche schultzei</i>	Broomrape Family Bean Broomrape Downy Broomrape Branched Broomrape Purple Broomrape	Akrotiri Seen occasionally Lilac flowers, short spike Nr Moni Prevelli
Oxalidaceae <i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i> ‡	Wood-sorrel Family Bermuda Buttercup	Invasive, pernicious weed!!
Papaveraceae <i>Glaucium flavum</i> <i>Papaver argemone</i> subsp. <i>nigrotinctum</i> <i>Papaver dubium</i> subsp. <i>dubium</i>	Poppy Family Yellow Horned Poppy Prickly Poppy Long-headed Poppy	Seen widely

Scientific name	Common name	Notes
<i>Papaver hybridum</i>	Rough Poppy	
<i>Papaver purpureomarginatum</i>		Small delicate, orange flowers
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common Poppy	
Pittosporaceae	Pittosporum Family	
<i>Pittosporum tobira</i> ‡	A Pittosporum	Halepo Hotel garden
Plantaginaceae	Plantain Family	
<i>Plantago afra</i>	Glandular Plantain	Seen regularly
<i>Plantago bellardii</i>	Hairy Plantain	"
<i>Plantago cretica</i>	A Plantain	"
<i>Plantago lagopus</i>	Hare's-foot Plantain	"
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	"
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	"
<i>Plantago weldenii</i>	A Buck's-horn Plantain	"
Platanaceae	Plane Family	
<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	Oriental Plane	Seen widely
Polygalaceae	Milk-wort Family	
<i>Polygala myrtifolia</i> ‡	Myrtle-leaved Milkwort	Planted, Agia
Primulaceae	Primrose Family	
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i> var. <i>arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel	
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i> subsp. <i>foemina</i>	Blue Pimpernel	
<i>Anagallis foemina</i>	A Pimpernel	
<i>Cyclamen creticum</i> •	Cretan Sowbread	See near Gerakari
Punicaceae	Pomegranate Family	
<i>Punica granatum</i> ‡	Pomegranate	Planted
Ranunculaceae	Buttercup Family	
<i>Anemone coronaria</i>	Crown Anemone	Masses on Omalos
<i>Anemone hortensis</i> subsp. <i>heldreichii</i>	Heldreich's Anemone	Spili
<i>Ranunculus arvensis</i>	Corn Buttercup	
<i>Ranunculus asiaticus</i>	Turban Buttercup	Seen widely -mostly white
<i>Ranunculus creticus</i> •	Cretan Buttercup	Spili – large leaves
<i>Ranunculus peltatus</i> subsp. <i>fucooides</i>	Pond Water-crowfoot	
Resedaceae	Mignonette Family	
<i>Reseda alba</i>	White Mignonette	
<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Mignonette	
Rosaceae	Rose Family	
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	Seen widely
<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i> ‡	Japanese Loquat	Planted
<i>Poterium sanguisorba</i> subsp. <i>verrucosa</i>	Salad Burnet	
<i>Prunus dulcis</i> ‡	Almond	
<i>Prunus persica</i> ‡	Peach	
<i>Pyrus spinosa</i>	Almond-leaved Pear	
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog-rose	
<i>Rubus sanctus</i>	A Bramble	

Scientific name	Common name	Notes
<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	Thorny Burnet	Chicken wire plant
Rubiaceae	Bedstraw Family	
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	
<i>Rubia peregriana</i>	Wild Madder	
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Field Madder	Tiny plant – lilac flowers
Rutaceae	Rue Family	
<i>Citrus limon</i> ‡	Lemon	
<i>Citrus sinensis</i> ‡	Orange	
<i>Ruta chalepensis</i> subsp. <i>chalepensis</i>	Fringed Rue	
Salicaceae	Willow Family	
<i>Populus alba</i> ‡	White Poplar	
<i>Salix alba</i> ‡	White Willow	
Scrophulariaceae	Figwort Family	
<i>Bellardia trixago</i>	Bellardia	Seen regularly – pink and white flowers
<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i> ‡	Ivy-leaved Toadflax	
<i>Linaria pelisseriana</i>	Jersey Toadflax	Tiny purple flowers
<i>Misopates orontium</i>	Weasel's-snout	Small pink flowers
<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	Southern Red Bartsia	Small plant – red flowers
<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	Yellow Bartsia	
<i>Scrophularia lucida</i>	Shining Figwort	
<i>Scrophularia peregrina</i>	Nettle-leaved Figwort	Imbros Gorge
<i>Verbascum arcturus</i> •	Shrubby Mullein	Plakias, Imbros
<i>Verbascum macrurum</i>	A Mullein	Tall plant
<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	Wavy-leaved Mullien	Leaves only,
<i>Veronica cymbalaria</i>	Cymbalaria-leaved Speedwell	
<i>Veronica persica</i> ‡	Common Field Speedwell	
Simaroubaceae	Tree-of-heaven Family	
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i> ‡	Tree-of-heaven	Prolific at Knossos
Solanaceae	Nightshade Family	
<i>Hyoscyamus albus</i>	White Henbane	Akrotiri
<i>Mandragora autumnalis</i>	Mandrake	Leaves only,
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i> ‡	Shrub Tobacco	Planted – roadsides
Styracaceae	Storax Family	
<i>Styrax officinalis</i>	Mediterranean Storax	Georgeopolis
Tamaricaceae	Tamarisk Family	
<i>Tamariix parviflora</i>	Small-flowered Tamarisk	
<i>Tamarix smyrnensis</i> ‡	A Tamarisk	
Ulmaceae	Elm Family	
<i>Zelkova abelicea</i> •	Cretan Zelkova	Not in leaf – Omalos
Urticaceae	Nettle Family	
<i>Parietaria cretica</i>	Cretan Pellitory	

Scientific name	Common name	Notes
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory-of-the-Wall	
<i>Urtica membranacea</i>	Membranous Nettle	
<i>Urtica pilulifera</i>	Roman Nettle	
Valerianaceae	Valerian Family	
<i>Centranthus calcitrapa</i>	Annual Valerian	
<i>Centranthus ruber</i> ‡	Red Valerian	
<i>Valeriana asarifolia</i> •	Cretan Valerian	
<i>Valerianella coronata</i>	A Corn Salad	
Verbenaceae	Vervain Family	
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Chaste Tree	Imbros Gorge – in leaf only
Vitaceae	Vine Family	
<i>Vitis vinifera</i> subsp. <i>sylvestris</i>	Wild Vine	
<i>Vitis vinifera</i> subsp. <i>vinifera</i> ‡	Grape Vine	
LILIIDAE	MONOCOTYLEDONS	
Amaryllidaceae	Daffodil Family	
<i>Allium neapolitanum</i>	Naples Garlic	Late Minoan Cemetery
<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	Sea Daffodil	Leaves only – Plakias
Araceae	Arum Family	
<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	Friar's Cowl	Spili
<i>Arum concinatum</i>	An Arum	Seen regularly
<i>Arum creticum</i>	Cretan Arum	Kotsiphos Gorge, yellow flowers
<i>Arum idaeum</i> *	Cretan Mountain Arum	Omalos
<i>Dracunculus vulgaris</i>	Dragon Arum	Akrotiri, Frangocastello
Asparagaceae	Asparagus Family	
<i>Agave americana</i> ‡	Centuryplant	Roadsides – planted
<i>Drimia maritima</i>	Sea Squill	Bulbs only
<i>Leopoldia comosa</i>	Tassel Hyacinth	Seen regularly
<i>Muscari spreitzenhoferi</i> •	A Tassel Hyacinth	Plakias
<i>Ornithogalum creticum</i> •	A Star-of-Bethlehem	Plakias, greenish flowers
<i>Ornithogalum narbonense</i>	Southern Star-of-Bethlehem	
Dioscoreaceae	Yam Family	
<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black Bryony	
Iridaceae	Iris Family	
<i>Crocus sieberi</i> subsp. <i>sieberi</i> •	A Crocus	Omalos
<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Field Gladiolus	Seen widely
<i>Iris tuberosa</i>	Snake's-head Iris	Omalos, green/brown flowers
<i>Moraea mediterranea</i>	One-leaved Barbary Nut	Akrotiri, leaves only
<i>Moraea sisyrrinchium</i>	Barbary Nut	Spili
Liliaceae	Lily Family	
<i>Gagea chrysantha</i>	A Yellow Star-of-Bethlehem	Omalos
<i>Gagea graeca</i>	Greek Lloydia	Seen widely – tiny plant
<i>Tulipa bakeri</i> •	Baker's Tulip	Omalos, pink
<i>Tulipa doerfleri</i> •	Doerfler's Tulip	Spili, red

Scientific name	Common name	Notes
<i>Tulipa saxatilis</i>	Rock Tulip	Plakias headland, seedheads and leaves,
Orchidaceae	Orchid Family	
<i>Anacamptis boryi</i>	Bory's Orchid	Spili , many seen
<i>Anacamptis collina</i>	Fan-lipped Orchid	Spili, Vatos, brown hood, pink lip
<i>Anacamptis laxiflora</i>	Jersey Orchid	Spili, Vatos, tall, unmarked purple flowers
<i>Anacamptis fragrans</i>	Fragrant Orchid	Not in flower
<i>Anacamptis papilionacea</i> subs. <i>alibertis</i> •	Alibertis' Pink Butterfly-orchid	Spili, Amari Valley, Vatos
<i>A. papilionacea</i> x <i>A boryi</i>	A hybrid	Vatos
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Orchid	Plakias Headland
<i>Himantoglossum robertianum</i>	Giant Orchid	Vatos
<i>Neotinea lactea</i>	Milky Orchid	Spili, mostly past their best, dusky pink
<i>Neotinea tridentata</i>	Toothed Orchid	Spili, Omalos, short, scruffy spike, pink flowers
<i>Ophrys (cretica) ssp. ariadnae</i>	Ariadne's Orchid	Spili, seen regularly, black and white lip
<i>Ophrys bombyliflora</i>	Bumblebee Orchid	Spili, in small swarms!
<i>Ophrys candica</i>	Candia Orchid	Behind cafe , south of Armeni
<i>Ophrys creberrima</i>	Creberrima Orchid	Spili
<i>Ophrys cretica</i>	Common Cretan Bee Orchid	Seen occasionally, black and white lip
<i>Ophrys episcopalis</i>	Large-flowered (Bishops)Bee Orchid	Seen widely
<i>Ophrys (sphegodes) ssp. gortynia</i>	Gortys Orchid	Plakias headland, one spike
<i>Ophrys heldreichii</i>	Heldreich's Orchid	Seen widely
<i>Ophrys iricolor</i>	Rainbow Orchid	Spili
<i>Ophrys leochroma</i>	Lions Mane Orchid	Spili, lip longer than top sepal
<i>Ophrys phaidra</i> (formerly <i>cressa</i>)		Spili
<i>Ophrys phryganae</i>	Phrygana Orchid	Seen regularly
<i>Ophrys sicula</i>	Small Yellow Bee Orchid	Spili
<i>Ophrys spruneri</i>	Spruner's Orchid	Bottom of Imbros
<i>Ophrys villosa</i>	Hairy Orchid	Spili, small square lip
<i>Orchis anthropophora</i>	Man Orchid	Spili , small green/orange flowers,
<i>Orchis italica</i>	Naked Man Orchid	Seen widely, pink, shaggy spike
<i>Orchis pauciflora</i>	Sparse-flowered Orchid	Spili , two tone yellow flowers
<i>Orchis quadripunctata</i>	Four-spotted Orchid	Spili, small pale pink flowers, spotted lip
<i>Orchis simia</i>	Monkey Orchid	Vatos
<i>Orchis sitiaca</i>	Sitias Orchid	Pink flowers, very folded lip
<i>Serapias bergonii</i>	Bergoni's Tongue-orchid	Seen regularly, tall spikes, dark coloured
<i>Serapias lingua</i>	Tongue-orchid	More pronounced tongue
<i>Serapias parviflora</i>	Small-flowered Tongue-orchid	Late Minoan Cemetery
Posidoniaceae	Neptune-grass Family	
<i>Posidonia oceanica</i>	Neptune-grass	Piles of dead grass on beaches
Smilacaceae	Smilax Family	
<i>Smilax aspera</i>	Common Smilax	
Typhaceae	Reedmace Family	
<i>Typha domingensis</i>	Southern Reedmace	
Xanthorrhoeaceae	Asphodel Family	
<i>Asphodeline lutea</i>	Yellow Asphodel	Seen widely
<i>Asphodelus aestivus</i>	Common Asphodel	"
<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	Hollow-stemmed Asphodel	Roadsides

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	April								
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
1	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>							1	1	
2	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>							✓	✓	
3	Garganey	<i>Spatula querquedula</i>			4-500				8	✓	
4	Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>							1		
5	Chukar	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>		1		1	H				
6	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>						2	✓	✓	
7	European Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>						1			
8	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	5		7	2			1		
9	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>			2				✓	✓	
10	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			16	50	1		1	1	
11	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>							2		
12	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	100						1		
13	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	300		127	6					
14	Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	✓	15	30	✓	✓	✓			✓
15	Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>	1	2							
16	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>							1	1	
17	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>							1		
19	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	
20	Baillon's Crake	<i>Porzana pusilla</i>									1
21	Little Crake	<i>Porzana parva</i>							4	1	
22	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>						✓	✓	✓	
23	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>			1			✓	✓	✓	
24	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	1		2			1			
25	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	1		4						
26	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>		1	✓				3	✓	
27	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		1	1						
28	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			4			1			
29	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>			2				2		
30	Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>			12	H					1
31	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	2	✓	✓	
32	Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
33	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>					H	H			
34	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
35	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>									14
36	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>						H			
37	European Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>					1				
38	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
39	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>									✓
40	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓		
41	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		1					H		
42	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>									20
43	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		2	✓	✓					✓
44	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>		✓		✓			✓	✓	
45	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>	✓	✓	✓	2	2				
46	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1	✓	✓	
47	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>		2				1	2	✓	
48	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	
49	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>						1			

	Common name	Scientific name	April								
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
50	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>							✓	✓	
51	Blue-headed Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava flava</i>			✓				✓		
	Black-headed Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava feldegg</i>			✓					✓	
52	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	H	H	H						
53	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>				2			1		
54	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>							✓		
55	Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe hispanica</i>		✓	H	✓	1		H		
56	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetta</i>			1						
57	European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
58	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
59	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	1	2		2	1		1		
60	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>		H	H	✓			H	H	
61	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>							1		
62	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
63	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>							✓	✓	
64	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		H	H	H			1	H	
65	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>				1	1				
66	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>			H	H			H		
67	Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>									1
68	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
69	European Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
70	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>				2				1	
71	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>							1		
72	Western Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	✓	✓				✓			
73	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>		2				2	1		
74	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
75	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		1	2	✓	3	✓	✓		
76	Italian Sparrow	<i>Passer italiae</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
77	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
78	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>		✓		✓					
79	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
80	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>		✓	✓			1	✓	✓	
81	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>						1	H	✓	
82	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>		1							
83	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>		1	H				✓		
84	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>		✓		✓					

Mammals (D = roadkill)

1	Beech Marten	<i>Martes foina bunites</i>	D		D		D	D	D	
2	Least Weasel	<i>Mustela nivalis galinthias</i>					1	1		
3	Cretan Badger	<i>Meles meles arkalus</i>	D				D			

Reptiles

1	Cretan Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis cretensis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Balkan Terrapin	<i>Mauremys rivulata</i>	✓					✓	✓	✓

Amphibians

1	Cretan Water Frog	<i>Pelophylax cretensis</i>		✓						
---	-------------------	-----------------------------	--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

	Common name	Scientific name	April							17
			10	11	12	13	14	15	16	

Butterflies

1	Cretan Festoon	<i>Zerynthia cretica</i>			1		✓	✓		
2	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalinus</i>			✓		1	✓		
3	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>			✓	✓			✓	
4	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>								
5	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
6	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>				1		✓		
7	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
8	Brown Argus	<i>Arica agrestis</i>			✓					
9	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>						✓	✓	
10	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>				1	✓	✓		
11	Southern Comma	<i>Polygonia egea</i>				2	1			
12	Southern Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria aegeria</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
13	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>				✓	✓	✓		
14	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>					✓			

Moths

1	Deaths-head Hawkmoth	<i>Acherontia atropos</i>		1						
---	----------------------	---------------------------	--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

Dragonflies

1	Blue Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>			1			✓		
2	Scarlet Darter	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>			✓			✓	✓	

Other Insects

1	Egyptian Grasshopper	<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i>			✓		✓	✓		
2	Migratory Locust	<i>Locusta migratoria</i>					✓			
3	Violet Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>			1	1		✓		
4	Green Tiger Beetle	<i>Cicindela campestris</i>			1			✓		
5	Italian Striped Bug	<i>Graphosoma lineatum</i>			1					
6	Tiger Beetle	<i>Calomera littoralis</i>				1				

Molluscs

1	Cretan Door Snail	<i>Albinaria inflata</i>					✓		✓	
---	-------------------	--------------------------	--	--	--	--	---	--	---	--

Naturetrek Facebook

We are delighted to launch the Naturetrek Facebook page so that participants of Naturetrek tours can remain in touch after the holiday and share photos, comments and future travel plans.

Setting up a personal profile at www.facebook.com is quick, free and easy. The [Naturetrek Facebook page](#) is now live; do please pay us a visit!