Wild Flowers of Sicily

Naturetrek Tour Report

3 - 10 May 2017



Cretan Scabious



Pale Ophrys



Borage

Ragusa's Nine-spotted Moth

Report and images by Jessica Turner



Tour participants: Jessica Turner and Julia Quinonez (leaders) with 14 Naturetrek clients

Summary

Sicily is a fascinating island with a great range of plants. Mount Etna dominates the north-east of the island, resulting in some very specific habitats and endemic plants. The eruptions of Spring 2017 gave us the opportunity to experience a very recent lava flow, as well as seeing how the vegetation starts to colonise the older areas. In the Madonies and the Bosco di Ficuzza, the orchids were particularly fine, despite some confusing variations or hybrids! The birds, insect life and other wildlife were also enjoyed, along with delicious food and comfortable hotels. Thanks to the group members for their contributions too, towards a great week in a delightful location.

Day 1

Wednesday 3rd May

Gatwick to Catania; slopes of Mount Etna

Twelve group members met Jessica and Julia at Gatwick Airport for our 6.35am flight to Catania. Despite some delay in take-off, we made up time in the flight. As we came into land, we could see very clearly the towering cone of Mount Etna, above its ring of cloud. Having collected our luggage, we met the final two group members, who had joined us from the 'Spring Birding in Sicily' tour. We sorted the vehicles, loaded up, and soon joined the north-bound A18. We stopped for a snack lunch at a service station, with smart Spanish or Spanish-Italian hybrid Sparrows hopping around. We left the autostrada at the Giarre exit and made our way up to our hotel, the Case Perrotta on the outskirts of Sant'Alfio, where we received a warm welcome from Valentina. The hotel was once a monastery, then a winery, and has some fascinating and quite quirky buildings. We settled into our rooms and, after a short break, met to start our exploration of the area.

We drove up the road from Case Perrotta, stopping by a little chapel above Milo. Here, we noted the lava which was starting to be colonised by vegetation. The Mount Vesuvius lichen (*Stereocaulon vesuvianum*) is the first coloniser, followed later by plants such as Red Valerian (*Centranthus ruber*), Etna Sorrel (*Rumex scutatus* forma *aetnensis*) and Woad (*Isatis tinctoria* subsp. *canescens*). Etna Broom (*Genista aetnensis*) was common, although not in flower. We also found some Narrow-leaved Lupins (*Lupinus angustifolium*), a tiny pink *Petrorhagia dubia*, a pale form of Fodder Vetch (*Vicia villosa* subsp. *ambigua*), and Jersey Fern (*Anogramma leptophylla*). We found several Clovers, including Hare's-foot (*Trifolium arvensis*), Starry (*T. stellatum*) and *T. cherleri*. A tiny speciality was the Perennial Knawel *Scleranthus perennis* subsp. *vulcanicus*. Neighbouring established woodland held Downy Oak (*Quercus pubescens*). Being under Etna's ring of cloud, we could not see the summit. A Nightingale sang from some scrub, but we could not see it.

We then drove back to Case Perrotta, where we explored the extensive grounds, finding beautiful shows of Woad and Narrow-leaved Lupins, the 'usual'-coloured Fodder Vetch (*Vicia villosa*), and the two-tone pea *Lathyrus clymenum*. Grasses included Hare's-foot Grass (*Lagurus ovatus*) and Large Quaking Grass (*Briza maxima*).

We met again after a break to discuss plans for the week and to start our checklists, before enjoying a delicious dinner. After such an early start for most, we then retired for some much-needed sleep.

Day 2

Eastern slopes of Etna

Thursday 4th May

Today we travelled from sea to mountain, ascending the eastern slopes of Mount Etna. Early birders reported good sightings of Subalpine Warblers in the grounds plus other species, including the ever-present Hoopoe and Nightingales. After a good breakfast, and with picnic supplies bought, we descended to the coast near Cottone, where the Fiumefreddo River enters the sea. Here, early finds included Three-horned Stock (Matthiola tricuspidata), Sea Stock (Matthiola sinuata), Sea Rocket (Cakile maritima) and Yellow Horned-poppy (Glaucium flavum). We were able to compare Crown Daisy with Corn Marigold (Glebionis coronarium and G. segetum). Tree Sparrows were flitting around the Eucalyptus trees and a Yellow-legged Gull flew by. Some of the group tested the sea temperature and enjoyed a paddle. We then moved on a short distance inland, to the Fiumefreddo Nature Reserve. Fiumefreddo means 'cold river', and the river carries the snow-melt from Etna. The low water temperature allows a number of different species to thrive which are rare elsewhere in Sicily. We parked in the shade and looked at a wall which bore many plants of Phagnalon (Phagnalon rupestre) and Annual Bellflower (Campanula erinus), before walking down the narrow path to the reserve. We were immediately struck by the lushness of the vegetation. Giant Reed (Arundo donax), White Willow (Salix alba) and White Poplar (Populus alba) towered above us, but so did Yellow Flag (Iris pseudacorus), Stinging Nettles (Urtica dioica) and Cretan Thistles (Cirsium creticum). Other plants included Water Mint (Mentha aquatica) and False Fox Sedge (Carex cuprina, formerly C. otrubae). One of the specialities of the reserve is Papyrus (Cyperus papyrus siculus). Cetti's Warbler and a Nightingale were singing, a flock of Bee-eaters passed overhead, and Italian Wall Lizards were enjoying the morning sun. Insects included Lesser Emperor dragonfly, Copper Demoiselle and Speckled Wood. In the adjacent meadow, we found Lythrum hyssopifolia, Lesser Swine-cress (Coronopus didymus) and plenty of Scarlet Pimpernel (Anagallis arvensis), though only the red form. Clouded Yellow and Large White butterflies were seen.

We then started to ascend the slopes of Etna, stopping for lunch above Linguaglossa, in what proved to be a very floristically-rich spot. Here we found forms of Green-winged Orchids (*Anacamptis morio* subsp. *morio* and the sparser subsp. *picta*), Toothed Orchids (*Neotinea tridentata*), Roman Orchids (*Dactylorhiza romana*), most of which had gone over but some were in good condition, a spike of Elder-flowered Orchid (*Dactylorhiza sambucina*), Dense-flowered Orchid (*Neotinea maculata*), emerging Pink Butterfly Orchid (*Anacamptis papilionacea*) and Violet Bird's-nest Orchid (*Limodorum arbortivum*). We also found a Green-winged x Pink Butterfly hybrid (*Anacamptis x gennarii*). A shady quarry held carpets of Spring Sowbread (*Cyclamen repandum*), and other plants included Cornflower (*Cyanus segetum*), bright pink Fedia (*Fedia cornucopiae*), and yellow *Biscutella didyma*.

Eventually we continued our climb, with our final main stop being Piano Provenzana (1785 metres) where we saw the 2002/3 lava flow, still very stark and black, but starting to be colonised in places. Here, we found many of the specialised and endemic species which survive in the hostile conditions of the volcano, which we had already seen elsewhere. In areas not affected by this flow, Juniper (*Juniperus communis* subsp. *hemisphaerica*), Etna Barberry (*Berberis aetnensis*), and Etna Milk-vetch (*Astracantha sicula*) sheltered quantities of Etna Pansy (*Viola aethnensis*), in shades from deep purple, through blue, lilac and yellow, to cream. Other plants here included *Potentilla calabra* and Etna Stonecrop (*Sedum aetnensis*), while birds feeding on the larva included Black Redstart, and Northern and Black-eared Wheatears. After a stop for refreshments at one of the bars, we returned to Sant' Alfio. After a break, we met to discuss the day, update our lists, and enjoy another delicious

dinner, before retiring after a long but fascinating day. As part of the feast of Sant'Alfio, local houses, including Case Perrotta, lit small bonfires at their gates at 8pm.

Day 3

Mount Etna

Today dawned fine, with some cloud around the summit of Etna. Bee-eater, Cuckoo, Hoopoe and Great Spotted Woodpecker were amongst the early morning birds, while Moorish Geckos and Italian Wall Lizard were seen on building walls. After a delicious breakfast, we set off through Zafferana, where we stopped to buy the picnic. While Jessica and Julia were shopping, group members saw Serin, and many Common plus a few Pallid Swifts. We then continued westwards, climbing the southern slopes of the volcano to reach the Rifugio Sapienza, the starting point for our ascent. Here, at 1900 metres, it was rather more chilly than at lower altitudes.

The first part of our journey was by cablecar to the Piccolo Rifugio at 2500 metres, where we transferred to the 4-wheel drive buses for the climb further, to c.2800 metres, the summit currently being 3340 metres, but changing with any eruption. Etna had been rather active this spring and the landscape had changed, with new lava flows and much new ash and dust coating everything. We climbed through banks of permanent snow and ice but, in general, there was relatively little lying snow, testament both to the warm weather and the volcanic activity. We could see a fumarole above, steaming away. Where we stopped, we were given the opportunity to walk across a lava flow to view an old, collapsed caldera. The lava on which we were walking was only 15 days old – surely the youngest piece of mountain underfoot for any of us! With a small lava flow, it only needs to cool for a few days before it is safe to walk on but, in places, we could feel the heat radiating around us. We had hazy but amazing views in all directions, and a Raven was spotted in the caldera. The wind was stirring the volcanic dust, so we were pleased to have refreshments at the half-way rifugio, before completing our descent to the car park. The whole group agreed it had been an amazing experience.

We then drove down south-westwards, finding a picnic spot in the shade by the Astrophysics Observatory. Exploring the area, we saw again species we'd seen the previous day such as Etna Tansy (*Tanacetum siculus*), Etna Barberry (*Berberis aetnensis*) and the leaves of the Ragwort *Senecio ambiguus*. We found a couple of plants with very tiny but beautiful flowers: the vetch *Vicia lathyroides*, and the Forget-me-not *Myosotis incrassata*. A Queen of Spain Fritillary was seen. Moving on, we stopped by an area of scrubby trees in a lava flow, finding a few spikes of Elder-flowered Orchid (Dactylorhiza sambucina) in shades of salmon-pink. Two Rock Buntings were seen on the lava flow, and a Blue Tit was nesting in a hole in the lava. We then drove back past the Rifugio Sapienza, stopping at a more extensive area of Sweet Chestnut woodland. Under the trees were carpets of the golden Leopard's-bane Doronicum orientale, plus Southern Daisy (*Bellis sylvestris*). There were more Elder-flowered Orchids here, in the more usual magenta and lemon shades. We also found many emerging spikes of Greater Broomrape (*Orobanche rapum-genistae*) parasitising the Etna Broom (*Genista aetnensis*). Common Blue and Small Heath butterflies were noted.

We then returned to Sant'Alfio. Along the way we passed several specimens of Manna Ash (*Fraxinus ornus*) and extensive stands of the yellow Thorny Broom (*Calicotome infesta*). A band was playing at several localities, including Case Perrotta, as part of the feast of Sant'Alfio, and another small bonfire was lit at the hotel gate at 8pm.

Friday 5th May

Day 4

Saturday 6th May

Transfer to Madonie Mountains

Today we moved on to our second destination, in the Madonie Mountains, further west, towards the north coast of the island. The geology of the Madonies is predominantly Carboniferous and Dolomitic limestone, and so provides a very different habitat and flora to that of Mount Etna.

We stopped to shop in Sant'Alfio, where everyone was preparing for the feast of their saints, and we were serenaded by another band. We then dropped down to the A18 towards Catania, then turning west on the A19. Along the way we noted Spotless Starlings, perched on the barriers on the edge of the autostrada, and some beautiful stretches of Blue Stonecrop (*Sedum caeruleum*), a reddish plant with pale blue flowers, and a Sicilian speciality. As we continued westwards, we saw large areas of Italian Sainfoin (*Hedysarum coronarium*), a native plant which is also cultivated as a fodder crop. We stopped for a break near Enna, where the blue form of Scarlet Pimpernel was found. We turned off the autostrada at Tremonzelli, towards Castellana Sicula, stopping after a few kilometres to look at the verges and field margins. Here we admired the wild Sweet Pea (*Lathyrus odoratus*), Italian Gladiolus (*Gladiolus italicus*), Yellow Asphodel (*Asphodeline lutea*), and Borage (*Borago officinalis*), amongst other species. A strange musty smell was linked to a tree infested with bright green beetles, later identified as the blister beetle Spanish Fly, which emits this odour. Corn Buntings were singing their jangly songs.

We stopped for lunch on the edge of Castellana Sicula, where Horse-chestnut trees provided some shade. We then took the road towards Petralia Soprana, stopping just below a hairpin bend to explore the grassy area. Here, we found many spikes of Sombre Bee Orchid (*Ophrys fusca* agg.), together with Pink Butterfly Orchids (*Anacamptis papilionacea* var. grandiflora), Long-spurred orchids (*Anacamptis morio* subsp. longicornu), dark Ophrys (*Ophrys sphegodes* subsp. atrata), Bertoloni's Bee Orchid (*Ophrys bertolonii*), Plough-share and Common Tongue Orchids (*Serapias vomeracea* and *S. lingua*), and a hybrid between them, *S. x intermedia*. We had to be very careful where we put our feet! Other plants included Bithynian Vetch and a pale blue form of Fodder Vetch (*Vicia bithynica* and *V. villosa*), Field Eryngo (*Eryngium campestre*) and big patches of Yellow Asphodel, while the sculptural *Carthamus pinnatus* and Red Star Thistle (*Centaurea calcitrapa*) were in the layby. Butterflies included Common Blue, Brown Argus and Clouded Yellow, a bright red Ladybird Spider was photographed and we found caterpillars of two moths, a Lackey and of Grass Eggar. Swallows were swooping low, and a male Stonechat showed well.

Eventually, we had to tear ourselves away from this beautiful place. We continued to climb up into the mountains, enjoying the views down to the sea to our north, and the late-afternoon sun. We soon arrived at our hotel, the Pomieri, which is perched on a hill with all-round views of the mountains, and was our base for the next four nights. We received a warm welcome from Ezio, Jacopo and Giuseppe, and soon settled into our rooms before meeting to discuss the day and enjoy a good dinner.

Day 5

Sunday 7th May

Vallone Madonna degli Angeli and Piano Battaglia

We woke to another fine, sunny and breezy day. Our main objective was to visit the Vallone Madonna degli Angeli, below Monte San Salvatore, which holds the last remaining site for the very rare Nebrod or Sicilian Fir (*Abies nebrodensis*). About forty or so mature trees remain in the world, although there are a number of seedlings (all carefully tagged and recorded). Most of the group were dropped at the start of the walk, with time to explore, while a couple, plus Jessica and Julia, went on to the hill-top village of Polizza Generosa, where Jessica and Julia shopped for the picnic. As we were driving, a black Western Whip Snake crossed the road in front of us. Retracing our steps a little, we then parked in an area of Corsican Pine (*Pinus nigra* subsp. *laricio*), by the gates marking the start of the walk. A small hillock to the right of the path immediately drew our attention, with *Iris pseudopumila*, and several different *Ophrys*. The *Ophrys* species are quite confusing, as differences between them are slight, and they hybridise readily. While some botanists class them as separate species, there is a move now, with DNA analysis, only to recognise them as, at best, subspecies or only as varietal forms. We found an endemic variant of the Yellow Bee Orchid (*Ophrys lutea* subsp. *galilea*), recognised by some as *Ophrys archimedea*. More straightforward was Brancifort's Orchid (*Orchis brancifortii*).

We set off up the path, initially through trees; a Short-toed Treecreeper and Coal Tit were seen, while others reported Firecrest. Near the first bend we found Naked Man Orchid (*Orchis italica*), Man Orchid (*Orchis anthropophora*), more Brancifort's Orchid, Yellow Bee Orchid (*Ophrys lutea*) and *Ophrys tenthredinifera* var. grandiflora, a Sicilian form of Sawfly Orchid. The track began to rise, becoming stonier, and with scree and cliffs to the sides. In this apparently very dry habitat, we found Golden Drops (*Onosma echoides* subsp. canescens), Candytuft (*Iberis pruitii*), mauve Sicilian Sad Stock (*Matthiola fruticulosa* var. sicula), the stunning blue flax, *Linum punctatum*, an endemic Alison, *Alyssum nebrodense*, and Amelanchier (*Amelanchier ovalis*) in full flower. Further up was the bellflower Edraianthus (*Edraianthus graminifolium*), Spring Cyclamen (*Cyclamen repandum*) were growing under the trees and bushes, and a surprise was a large and flowering spike of Violet Bird's-nest Orchid (*Limodorum abortivum*). Butterflies included Little Blue, and we also noted a couple of Humming-bird Hawk-moths. Where the path divided, we scanned the hillsides opposite, seeing a number of the trees. Some of us then took the right hand 'Sentiero Abies', and soon found a specimen tree and several seedlings, although surrounding vegetation made photography quite challenging.

We ate our picnic on the low walls by the start of the walk before driving back up the road and stopping by some rocky meadows. Here we found many more Brancifort's Orchids, together with two forms of Yellow Bee Orchid (*Ophrys lutea* subsp. *lutea*, and one spike of *Ophrys lutea* subsp. *galilea*, formerly known as *Ophrys sicula*), and some fine Bertoloni's Bee Orchid (*Ophrys lutea* subsp. *lutea*, and one spike of *Ophrys lutea* subsp. *galilea*, formerly known as *Ophrys sicula*), and some fine Bertoloni's Bee Orchid (*Ophrys bertolonii*). We also noted the sculptural basal-leaf rosettes of *Jurinea bocconii* and *Carthamus pinnatus*. Unfortunately, the rifugio where we had planned to stop for coffee was closed, so we moved on.

We then explored the top of Piano Battaglia. This is an area of boulder-strewn hillsides, at 1600 metres above sea level, with streams leading to a sink hole. We walked through the Daisies (*Bellis perennis* var. *strobliana*) and white stars of Mountain Star of Bethlehem (*Ornithogalum montanum*), with patches of Yellow Star of Bethlehem (*Gagea liotardii*). By the sink hole, where snow had lain longer, we found the deep blue Alpine Squill (*Scilla bifolia*) and pink Bird-in-a-bush (*Corydalis solida*) together with Lesser Celandine (*Ficaria verna* agg.) A large patch of Tazetta or Bunch-flowered Narcissi (*Narcissus tazetta*) was found by a stream, but the flowers were pretty well over. A flock of Red-billed Choughs were playing about, along with Hooded Crows, while Cirl Buntings were heard. We returned to the hotel, with time for a break or for local exploration, before meeting to go through our lists, discuss plans, and enjoy another excellent meal.

Day 6

Bosco di Ficuzza

Monday 8th May

Today, we set out to explore the Bosco di Ficuzza, some distance from Pomieri, but known to be a good place for orchids. We set off over Piano Battaglia and down towards Piano Torre. We stopped to admire some fine white Peonies (*Paeonia mascula*) by the road, along with carpets of Spring Sowbread (*Cyclamen repandum*), then in Collesano to shop for our picnic. A little further on, we stopped just after a bend to explore a rough field. Here we found a spiked Star of Bethlehem, *Ornithogalum narbonense*, tall, pinkish and some white heads of *Allium nigrum*, Rosy Garlic (*Allium roseum*) and an *Allium* with white starry flowers, *Allium subhirsutum*. Further exploration of the meadow showed quantities of the beautiful Blue Convolvulus (*Convolvulus tricolor*), the golden thistle-like Oyster Plant (*Scolymus grandiflora*), and the blue thistle-like *Carthamus caeruleus*. We found two different Yellow Star-thistles, not quite in flower: the usual *Centaurea solstitialis*, which has a winged stem, and *Centaurea sicula*, which does not. As we were about to leave, we also found some large spikes of *Ornithogalum arabicum* and Blue Hound's-tongue (*Cynoglottis creticum*). Turtle Doves were purring, and amongst the insect life we found Red-veined Darter dragonflies and Aetherie Fritillary, the latter a very localised species of southern Iberia, Sicily and north Africa.

We continued down to Campofelice where we stopped for fuel, and towards Palermo before continuing on to the Villabate exit, shortly before the outskirts of the city. From here we drove south-west down as far as Bolognetta, where we joined the SS118. After the town of Marineo we passed the Lago dello Scanzano and turned up towards Ficuzza, where King Fernando III (of Sicily, but IV of Naples) had a grand hunting lodge. We stopped for refreshments in this tiny village before continuing to climb into the woodland, which lies underneath the imposing Rocca Busambra.

We drove further up the hillside, finding a pull-in with magnificent views. The group explored while Jessica and Julia prepared lunch and, afterwards, we explored together. Here we found our target species, Pale Ophrys (*Ophrys fusca* subsp. *pallida*), of which most of the world population grows only in this area. Once we had got our eyes tuned to this small *Ophrys*, we found quite a number of spikes, some very fresh. We also found Provence Orchid (*Orchis provincialis*), a few spikes of Sombre Bee Orchid (*Ophrys fusca* agg.), Longspurred Orchid (*Anacamptis morio* subsp. *longicornu*) and Tongue Orchids (*Serapias lingua*). A patch of the small blue iris Barbary Nut (*Moraea sisyrbincium*) was nice to see, as they only flower in the afternoon. Other species included Pink Hawk's-beard (*Crepis rubra*), some specimens of which had a very yellowish tinge, indicating hybridisation, probably with the yellow Smooth Hawk's-beard (*Crepis capillaris*), and plenty of starry-flowered *Allium subhirsutum*. Insects included the strange-looking Ascalaphids, and we had excellent views of the Sicilian subspecies of Long-tailed Tit. Eventually we moved back down towards the village where we explored another area, finding Beaked Ophrys (*Ophrys fuciflora* subsp. *oxyrrhyncos*) and Naked Man Orchid (*Orchis italica*). It was then time to set out on the long journey home, returning via Castellana Sicula. We enjoyed the evening light and beautiful views, until these were obscured by low cloud which enveloped the hotel. We all agreed that it had been a very enjoyable day.

Some of the group had opted to walk from the hotel, climbing the mountain opposite the hotel. They reported, amongst other sightings, Peonies, Nebrod Thrift (*Armeria canescens* subsp. *nebrodense*), Choughs and Glanville Fritillary butterfly. They too had had an excellent day.

Day 7

Tuesday 9th May

Isnello; Gibilmanna; Isnello Gorge

It was cooler and cloudier today, as we set off, up over Piano Battaglia. Our first stop was at below Piano Torre, where we found several spikes of the beautiful Lacaita's Ophrys (*Ophrys fuciflora* subsp. *lacaitae*). There was a good patch of Round-leaved Birthwort (*Aristolochia rotunda*) on the verge as well. We then moved down to the hillside village of Isnello, where we parked and explored the narrow streets and the market, while Jessica and Julia shopped for the picnic.

Our main destination for the morning was an area around the Sanctuary of Gibilmanna, on the north-facing slope of the Madonies. We parked below the church and set off along a footpath. Very soon we were finding spikes of Violet Limodore (*Limodorum abortivum*), with several growing close together in the light shade of Holm Oaks (*Quercus ilex*). Nearby were large, dark red spikes of a Broomrape, *Orobanche variegata*. Three species of Cistus: Sage-leaved (*Cistus salviflorus* with large white flowers), Narrow-leaved (*Cistus monspeliensis* with small white flowers) and the pink *Cistus creticus* were all abundant, indicating a more Mediterranean feel to the flora. As the path progressed, we also found Spotted Rock-rose (*Tuberaria guttata*), French Lavender (*Lavendula stoechas*) and Tree Heather (*Erica arborea*). It was pleasantly warm in the sun. We returned along the same path, overlooking a turquoise sea, so different from the mountains we had left.

We descended to a shady meadow for our final picnic, where Nuthatches were feeding amongst the Oak trees. We then retraced our steps towards Isnello, stopping at the river gorge before the village. On the rock faces were Cretan Scabious (*Scabiosa cretica*) with beautiful seedheads, while other plants above the gorge included Tree Spurge (*Euphorbia dendroides*), Crupina (*Crupina crupinastrum*), Bladder Vetch (*Tripodion tetraphyllum*) and Dodder (*Cuscuta epithymum*), together with an endemic Genista (*Genista ephedroides*). House Martins were nesting under the road bridge and a few Sand Martins were also seen, while Sicilian Wall Lizards and a Ragusa's Nine-spotted moth (a more southern species than the usual Nine-spotted, which is not in Sicily) gave prolonged views.

We decided then to return to Isnello, for a genuine 'gelato', which we enjoyed in the afternoon sun. A Fox walked down the pavement before disappearing through a fence, while on the return journey a group of Fallow Deer were seen. After a break, we met to complete our lists and enjoy our last dinner together, comparing notes on the highlights of an excellent week..

Day 8

Wednesday 10th May

Hotel Pomieri to Catania, to London Gatwick

We had a very early start this morning, in order to be at Catania for our morning flight back to Gatwick. The hotel staff were all there to give us an early breakfast and to wish us well. We said our farewells and thanks, travelling along a newly-opened route to the autostrada. We had excellent views of Mount Etna, with its steam hanging in the clear air. The journey went smoothly and we made good time, returning home with many memories and photographs of an enjoyable week, exploring the Wild Flowers (plus birds, butterflies and other insects, and reptiles!) of Sicily.

Species Lists:

Plants (** = Endemic to Sicily; * = Endemic to Italy and Sicily

The layout of the plant list, and plant names have been updated in line with current taxonomy (mainly based on DNA studies)

studies)		
Scientific name	Common name	Location/Notes
PTERIDOPHYTES	FERNS & ALLIES	
Lycophytes		
Selaginellaceae	Lesser Clubmoss Family	
Selaginella denticulata	Mediterranean Clubmoss	Gibilmanna
Calamophytes		
Equisetaceae	Horsetail Family	
Equisetum telmateia	Giant Horsetail	Fiumefreddo
Leptosporangiate Ferns	True Ferns	
Aspleniaceae	Spleenwort Family	
Asplenium adiantum-nigrum	Black Spleenwort	Gibilmanna
Asplenium ceterach	Rustyback	Above Milo
Asplenium onopteris	Irish Spleenwort	Above Linguaglossa
Asplenium septentrionale	Forked Spleenwort	Below Etna
Asplenium trichomanes	Maidenhair Spleenwort	Case Perrotta
Cystopteraceae	Bladder-fern Family	
Cystopteris fragilis	Brittle Bladder-fern	Above Linguaglossa
Dennstaedtiaceae	Bracken Family	
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	Fiumefreddo
Dryopteridaceae	Male-fern Family	
Dryopteris filix-mas	Male-fern	Gibilmanna
Polypodiaceae	Polypody Family	
Polypodium cambricum	Southern Polypody	Case Perrotta
Pteridaceae	Ribbon Fern Family	
Anogramma leptophylla	Jersey Fern	Above Milo
GYMNOSPERMS	CONIFERS	
Cupressaceae	Juniper Family	
Juniperus communis (ssp. hemisphaericum)	Juniper	Piano Provenzana
Juniperus oxycedrus	Prickly Juniper	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
Pinaceae	Pine Family	
Abies nebrodensis**	Sicilian Fir (Nebrod Pine)	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
Pinus halepensis	Aleppo Pine	Lower slopes of Etna
Pinus nigra subsp. laricio	Corsican Pine	Piano Provenzana
Pinus pinea	Stone or Umbrella Pine	Roadsides near Catania

ANGIOSPERMS Pre-dicots Aristolochiaceae Aristolochia rotunda

Eu-dicots

Acanthaceae Acanthus mollis

Adoxaceae Sambucus ebulus Sambucus nigra

Anacardiaceae Pistacia terebinthus Pistacia lentiscus

Apiaceae

Anthriscus nemerosa Cachrys ferulacea Conium maculatum Daucus carota Elaeoselinum asclepium Eryngium campestre Ferula communis subsp. communis Foeniculum vulgare Laserpitium siler subsp. garganicum Oenanthe globulosa Opoponax chironium Orlaya kochii Scandix pecten-veneris Smyrnium perfoliatum ssp. rotundifolium Thapsia garganica

Apocynaceae Nerium oleander

Aquifoliaceae Ilex aquifolia

Araliaceae Hedera helix

Berberidaceae Berberis aetnensis

Betulaceae Betula aetnensis** Corylus avellana

Boraginaceae Anchusa cretica

Common name

FLOWERING PLANTS Primitive Angiosperms Birthwort Family Birthwort

True Dicotyledons Bear's-breech Family Bear's-breech

Moschatel Family Dwarf Elder Elder

Sumach Family Turpentine Tree Lentisk

Carrot Family

A Cow Parsley

Hemlock Wild Carrot Elaeoselinum Field Eryngo Giant Fennel Fennel A Sermountain Water Dropwort Hercules All-heal An Orlaya Shepherd's Needles Perfoliate Alexanders Thapsia

Periwinkle Family Oleander

Holly Family Holly

Ivy Family Ivy

Barberry Family Etna Barberry

Birch Family Etna Birch Hazel

Borage Family Cretan Alkanet

Location/Notes

Piano Torre

Fiumefreddo and roadsides

Fiumefreddo Roadsides nr Castellana Sicula

Isnello Gorge Gibilmanna

Nr Zafferana Common round Piano Battaglia Nr Castellana Sicula Isnello Gorge Bosco di Ficuzza (leaves) Below Petralia Soprana Roadsides Case Perrotta Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Below Petralia Soprana Vallone Madonna degli Angeli (leaves) Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Above Milo (leaves)

Planted

Bosco di Ficuzza

Above Linguaglossa

Piano Provenzana

Piano Provenzana Above Linguaglossa

Above Milo

Borago officinalis Cerinthe majus Cynoglossum creticum Echium italicum Echium plantagineum Myosotis incrassata Myosotis sylvatica Onosma echioides subsp. canescens Symphytum gussonei**

Brassicaceae

Aetheonema saxatile Alyssum nebrodense** Arabidopsis thaliana Arabis alpina subsp. caucasica Arabis turrita Arabis verna Aubrieta deltoidea Barbarea bracteosa Biscutella didyma Bunias erucago Cakile maritima Capsella bursa-pastoris Coronopus didymus Erophila verna Erysimum bonannianum** Hirschfeldia incana Iberis pruitii Isatis tinctoria subsp. canescens Lepidium hirtum subsp. nebrodense Matthiola fruticulosa var. sicula** Matthiola sinuata Matthiola tricuspidata Sisymbrium officinale

Campanulaceae

Campanula dichotoma Campanula erinus Edraianthus graminifolius

Legousia falcata

Caprifoliaceae

Centranthus ruber Dipsacus fullonum Fedia cornucopiae Lonicera etrusca Scabiosa cretica Valeriana tuberosa

Caryophyllaceae

Arenaria grandiflora Cerastium tomentosum

Common name

Borage
Honeywort
Blue Hound's-tongue
Pale Bugloss
Purple Viper's-bugloss
a Forget-me-not
Wood Forget-me-not
Golden Drops

A Comfrey

Cabbage Family

Burnt Candytuft An Alyssum **Thale Cress** Alpine Rockcress **Tower Cress** Spring Rockcress an Aubrieta A Wintercress A Buckler-mustard **Bunias** Sea Rocket Shepherd's-purse Lesser Swine-cress Whitlow Grass A Treacle-mustard Hoary Mustard A Candytuft Woad Sad Stock Sea Stock Three-horned Stock Hedge Mustard

Bellflower Family

a Bellflower Annual Bellflower Edraianthus Spicate Venus's Lookingglass

Honeysuckle Family

Red Valerian Teasel Fedia Etruscan Honeysuckle -A Valerian

Pink Family

Large-flowered Sandwort Snow-in-Summer

Location/Notes

Nr Castellana Sicula Nr Castellana Sicula Nr Collesano Below Petralia Soprana Case Perrotta Below Etna Piano Battaglia roadside Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Near Hotel Pomieri

Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Case Perrotta Piano Battaglia Above Linguaglossa Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Piano Battaglia roadside Piano Battaglia Above Linguaglossa Case Perrotta Cottone Case Perrotta Fiumefreddo **Below Etna** Above Milo Roadsides Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Above Milo Piano Battaglia Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Cottone Cottone Case Perrotta

Near Case Perrotta Fiumefreddo Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Meadows nr V. Madonna degli Angeli

Above Milo Roadsides Above Linguaglossa Near Hotel Pomieri Isnello Gorge Below Piano Battaglia

Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Petrorhagia dubia (velutina) Petrorhagia saxifraga Saponaria sicula Scleranthus aetnensis** Scleranthus marginatus Scleranthus perennis subsp. vulcanicus* Silene conica Silene fuscata Silene gallica Silene italica Silene latifolia Silene vulgaris Spergularia rubra Stellaria media Stellaria neglecta

Cistaceae

Cistus creticus Cistus monspeliensis Cistus salvifolius Fumana thymifolia Helianthemum nummularium ssp. grandiflorum Helianthemum oelandicum ssp. italicum Tuberaria guttata

Compositae (Asteraceae)

Andrvala integrifolia Anthemis aetnensis** Anthemis arvensis Anthemis cretica (montana) Artemisia alba Artemisia arborescens Bellis annua Bellis perennis (var. strobliana**) Bellis sylvestris Calendula arvensis Carduus pycnocephalus Carduus macrocephalus (subsp. siculus) Carduus tenuiflorus Carlina nebrodensis** Carthamus (Carducellus) caeruleus Carthamus (Carduncellus) pinnatus Centaurea busambarensis** Centaurea calcitrapa Centaurea cyanus Centaurea napifolia Centaurea sicula Centaurea solstitialis Cirsium creticum Crepis capillaris Crepis rubra

Common name

- A Childing Pink Tunic Flower Sicilian Soapwort a Knawel a Knawel a Perennial Knawel Sand Catchfly A Catchfly Small-flowered Catchfly Italian Catchfly White Campion Bladder campion
- Sand Spurrey Common Chickweed Greater Chickweed

Rockrose Family

Cretan Cistus Narrow-leaved Cistus Sage-leaved Cistus Thyme-leaved Fumana Rock-rose

Hoary Rock-rose Spotted Rock-rose

Daisy Family

Andryala Etna Daisy Corn Chamomile

A Wormwood A Wormwood Annual Daisy Daisy Southern Daisy Field Marigold Plymouth Thistle

Slender Thistle Nebrod Carline Thistle Carduncellus

a grey-leaved Knapweed Red Star-thistle Cornflower a Knapweed a Yellow Star-thistle Yellow Star-thistle Cretan Thistle Smooth Hawk's-beard Pink Hawk's-beard

Location/Notes

Above Milo Isnello Gorge Piano Provenzana (leaves) Piano Provenzana Piano Battaglia

- Above Milo Above Milo
- Nr Castellana Sicula Above Milo Gibilmanna Case Perrotta Case Perrotta Below Etna Case Perrotta

Gibilmanna Gibilmanna Gibilmanna Isnello Gorge Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Gibilmanna

Gibilmanna Nr Piano Provenzana Above Milo Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Isnello Gorge Gibilmanna Above Linguaglossa Below Etna Nr Castellana Sicula

Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Nr Collesano Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Nr Collesano Below Petralia Soprana Isnello Gorge Below Petralia Soprana Above Linguaglossa Nr Collesano Nr Collesano Nr Collesano Fiumefreddo Bosco di Ficuzza

Crepis capillaris x C.rubra Crupina crupinastrum Dittrichia viscosa Doronicum orientale Filago (Evax) astericifolia Filago (Evax) pygmaea Filago vulgaris Galactities tomentosa Glebionis coronarium Glebionis segetum Helichrysum nebrodensis** Helichrysum stoechas Hyoseris radiata Jacobea ambigua (Senecio ambiguus)** Jacobea candida (Senecio candidus)** Jurinea bocconii Launaea resedifolia Notobasis syriaca Pallenis spinosa Phagnalon rupestre Ptilostemon stellatus Ragadiolus edulis Scolymus grandiflorus Senecio squalidus subsp. aethnensis** Senecio vulgaris Silybum marianum Tanacetum siculum Tragapogon hybridum Tragopogon porrifolius Tussilago farfara Urospermum dalechampii

Convolvulaceae

Calystegia silvatica Convolvulus althaeoides Convolvulus arvensis Convolvulus tricolor Cuscuta epithymum Cuscuta campestris

Crassulaceae

Sedum aetnense** Sedum caeruleum Sedum forsterianum Sedum hispanicum Sedum rubens Sedum stellatum Umbilicus horizontalis Umbilicus rupestris

Common name

a hybrid Hawk's-beard Crupina Woody Fleabane (Stink Aster) a Leopard's-bane Greater Evax Evax Common Cudweed Galactites Crown Daisy Corn Marigold An Everlasting Curry Plant Hyoseris A Ragwort A Ragwort Jurinea Syrian Thistle Pallenis

Phagnalon Annual Ptilostemon

Oyster Plant

A Ragwort

Groundsel Milk Thistle Etna Tansy Hybrid Goat's-beard Salsify Colt's-foot Urospermum

Bindweed Family

Large Bindweed Mallow-leaved Bindweed Field Bindweed

Common Dodder Field Dodder

Stonecrop Family

Etna Stonecrop Blue Stonecrop Rock Stonecrop Spanish Stonecrop Red Stonecrop Starry Stonecrop A Wall Pennywort Wall Pennywort

Location/Notes

Bosco di Ficuzza Isnello Gorge Cottone Above Linguaglossa Bosco di Ficuzza Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Above Milo Roadsides Cottone Cottone Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Above Milo Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Above Milo (Ivs) Vallone Madonna degli Angeli (lvs) Meadows nr Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Above Milo Isnello Gorge Isnello Gorge Fiumefreddo Isnello Gorge Gibilmanna Nr Collesano Piano Provenzana Fiumefreddo Case Perrotta Piano Provenzana Nr Collesano Isnello Piano Battaglia Fiumefreddo

Case Perrotta Roadsides Roadsides Nr Collesano Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Isnello Gorge

Piano Provenzana (Ivs) Roadsides Above Milo Vallone Madonna degli Angeli (Ivs) Below Etna Above Milo (Ivs) Gibilmanna Above Milo

Ericaceae Erica arborea

Euphorbiaceae

Euphorbia characias Euphorbia dendroides Euphorbia helioscopia Euphorbia maculata

Euphorbia rigida Ricinus communis

Fagaceae

Castanea sativa Fagus sylvatica Quercus ilex Quercus petraea Quercus pubescens Quercus suber

Gentianaceae Blackstonia perfoliata

Geraniaceae

Erodium cicutarium Geranium lucidum Geranium molle Geranium purpureum Geranium pyrenaicum Geranium sanguineum

Hypericaceae

Hypericum perfoliatum Hypericum perforatum

Lamiaceae

Ajuga orientalis Clinopodium (Acinos) alpinum Lamium amplexicaule Lamium maculatum Lavandula stoechas Melittis melissophyllum Mentha aquatica Mentha arvensis Mentha pulegium Micromeria graeca (M. consentina*) Origanum vulgare Prasium majus Salvia verbenaca Sideritis romana Thymus vulgaris Teucrium scorodonia

Common name

Heather Family

Tree Heather

Spurge Family

Large Mediterranean Spurge Tree Spurge Sun Spurge Spotted Spurge Narrow-leaved Glaucous Spurge Castor Oil Plant

Beech Family

Sweet Chestnut Beech Holly Oak Durmast Oak Downy Oak Cork Oak

Gentian Family

Yellow-wort

Geranium Family

Common Stork's-bill Shining Crane's-bill Dove's-foot Crane's-bill Little Robin Hedgerow Crane's-bill Bloody Crane's-bill

St. John's Wort Family

a St. John's-wort Perforate St. John's-wort

Dead-nettle Family

Oriental Bugle Alpine Basil Thyme Henbit Dead-nettle Spotted Dead-nettle French Lavender Bastard Balm Water Mint Corn Mint Pennyroyal

Marjoram Prasium Wild Clary -Wild Thyme Wood Sage

Location/Notes

Gibilmanna

Gibilmanna Isnello Gorge Case Perrotta Fiumefreddo Below Petralia Soprana

Above Milo

Slopes of Etna Piano Provenzana Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Nr Hotel Pomieri Slopes of Etna Nr Piano Torre

Isnello

Case Perrotta Above Milo Above Milo Above Milo Nr Piano Torre Nr Pollizzi Generosa

Bosco di Ficuzza Gibilmanna

Nr Gibilmanna Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Fiumefreddo Gibilmanna Gibilmanna Gibilmanna Fiumefreddo **Below Petralia Sporana** Case Perrotta Above Milo Gibilmanna Isnello Gorge Case Perrotta Cottone Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Gibilmanna

Scientific name	Common name
Leguminosae (Fabaceae)	Pea Family
Anthyllis vulneraria agg.	Kidney Vetch
Astragalus depressus	Sprawling Milk-ve
Astragalus hamosus	-
Astracantha (Astragalus) nebrodensis**	-
Astracantha (Astragalus) siculus**	Etna Milk-vetch
Bitumaria bituminosa	Pitch Trefoil
Calycotome infesta	Thorny Broom
Calycotome villosa	-
Cytisus villosus	Hairy Broom
Genista aetnensis**	Etna Broom
Genista cupanii**	an endemic Gree
Genista ephedroides*	an endemic Gree
Hedysarum coronarium	Italian Sainfoin
Hippocrepis emerus subsp. emeroides	A Scorpion-vetch
Lathyrus aphaca	Yellow Vetchling
Lathyrus clymenum	-
Lathyrus odoratus**	Sweet Pea
Lathyrus setifolius	Red Vetchling
Lotus ornithopodioides	-
Lotus pedunculatus	Greater Bird's-foo
Lotus tetragonolobus (T. purpureus)	Asparagus Pea
Lupinus angustifolius	Narrow-leaved Lu
Medicago lupulina	Black Medick
Medicago orbicularis	Disc Medick
Melilotus italicus	a Melilot
Ornithopus compressus	Compressed Bird
Robinia pseudoacacia	False Acacia
Spartium junceum	Spanish Broom
Trifolium arvense	Hare's-foot Clove
Trifolium campestre	Hop Trefoil
Trifolium cherleri	-
Trifolium incarnatum subsp. molinieri	-
Trifolium repens	White Clover
Trifolium resupinatum	Reversed Clover
Trifolium stellatum	Starry Clover
Trifolium subterraneum	
Trifolium tomentosum	Burrowing Clover Woolly Trefoil
Tripodion (Anthyllis) tetraphyllum	Bladder Vetch
	Diaduel Velch
Vicia bithynica Vicia faba	- Broad Boon
	Broad Bean
Vicia hybrida Vicia lathyraidas	Hairy Yellow Veto
Vicia lathyroides	- Small Common M
Vicia sativa subsp. nigra	Small Common V
Vicia tetrasperma	Smooth Tare
Vicia villosa	Fodder Vetch
Vicia villosa subsp. ambigua	Fodder Vetch (pa

Linaceae

Linum bienne Linum punctatum Linum strictum

Location/Notes

a Family dney Vetch rawling Milk-vetch

airy Broom na Broom endemic Greenweed endemic Greenweed lian Sainfoin

eater Bird's-foot Trefoil paragus Pea arrow-leaved Lupin ack Medick sc Medick Melilot ompressed Bird's-foot lse Acacia anish Broom are's-foot Clover p Trefoil

oad Bean airy Yellow Vetch nall Common Vetch nooth Tare

dder Vetch dder Vetch (pale)

Flax Family

Biennial Flax A Flax Upright Yellow Flax **Below Petralia Sporana** Piano Battaglia Near Castellana Sicula Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Piano Provenzana Isnello Gorge Above Linguaglossa Gibilmanna Above Linguaglossa Slopes of Etna Hotel Pomieri Isnello Gorge Common in west Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Fiumefreddo Case Perrotta Near Castellana Sicula Above Milo Bosco di Ficuzza Fiumefreddo **Below Petralia Sporana** Case Perrotta Piano Battaglia Near Castellana Sicula Near Castellana Sicula Case Perrotta Roadsides Roadsides Above Milo Above Milo Above Milo Above Milo Fiumefreddo Near Collesano Above Milo Above Linguaglossa Near Castellana Sicula Isnello Gorge **Below Petralia Sporana** Fields Above Linguaglossa **Below Etna** Above Linguaglossa **Below Etna** Case Perrotta Above Milo

Near Collesano Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Near Collesano

Lythraceae Lythrum hyssopifolia

Malvaceae Lavatera arborea Lavatera trimestris Malva sylvestris

Moraceae Ficus carica

Oleaceae Fraxinus angustifolia Fraxinus ornus Olea europaea

Orobanchaceae

Bartsia (Bellardia) trixago Odontites bocconii** Orobanche minor Orobanche ramosa Orobanche rapum-genistae Orobanche variegata Parentucellia latifolia Parentucellia viscosa

Oxalidaceae

Oxalis corniculata Oxalis pres-caprae

Paeoniaceae Paeonia mascula

Papaveraceae

Corydalis solida Fumaria capreolata Fumaria officinalis Glaucium flavum Papaver rhoeas Papaver somniferum

Plantaginaceae

Antirrhinum majus Linaria purpurea Misopates orontium Plantago bellardii

Plantago cupani

Plantago lanceolata Plantago major Plantago serraria Veronica beccabunga Veronica cymbalaria

Common name

Loosestrife Family

Mallow Family

Tree Mallow Annual Mallow Common Mallow

Mulberry Family Fig

Olive Family Narrow-leaved Ash Flowering Ash Olive

Broomrape Family Bellardia A perennial Bartsia Common Broomrape Branched Broomrape Greater Broomrape A Broomrape Southern Red Bartsia Yellow Bartsia

Wood-sorrel Family

Procumbent Yellow Sorrel Bermuda Buttercup

Peony Family Peony

Poppy Family

Bird-in-a-bush White Ramping Fumitory Common Fumitory Yellow Horned-poppy Common Poppy Opium Poppy

Plantain Family Snapdragon

Purple Toadflax Weasel-snout

A Plantain (pinnatisect leaves) Ribwort Plantain Greater Plantain A Plantain (toothed leaves) Brooklime White Speedwell

Location/Notes

Fiumefreddo

Roadsides Near Collesano Case Perrotta

Scattered

Bosco di Ficuzza Near Zafferana Common

Below Petralia Sporana Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Below Petralia Sporana Bosco di Ficuzza Below Etna Gibilmanna Below Petralia Sporana Below Petralia Sporana

Fiumefreddo Cottone

Piano Torre

Piano Battaglia Case Perrotta Above Linguaglossa Cottone Fields Near Castellana Sicula

Gibilmanna Above Milo Fiumefreddo Above Milo Vallone Madonna degli Angeli (meadow) Hotel Pomieri Hotel Pomieri Bosco di Ficuzza Near Hotel Pomieri Gibilmanna

Tour Report

Scientific name

Veronica peregrina Veronica persica

Plumbaginaceae Armeria canescens subsp. *nebrodensis*

Polygonaceae

Persicaria hydropiper Rumex acetosa Rumex bucephaliflorus Rumex scutatus Rumex scutatus forma aetnensis**

Portulacaceae Portulaca oleracea

Primulaceae

Anagallis arvensis Anagallis arvensis (var. caerulea) Anagallis arvensis subsp. foemina

Cyclamen hederifolium Cyclamen repandum Primula vulgaris Samolus valerandi

Ranunculaceae

Anemone apennina Anemone hortensis Clematis vitalba Ficaria verna agg. Nigella damascena Ranunculus arvensis Ranunculus millefoliatus Ranunculus monspeliacus subsp. saxatilis Thalictrum aquilegifolium

Resedaceae Reseda alba

Rhamnaceae Rhamnus alaternus

Rosaceae

Amelanchier ovalis Crataegus orientalis (C. laciniata) Crataegus monogyna Geum urbanum Potentilla calabra Potentilla reptans Prunus spinosa Pyrus amygdaliformis

Common name

Neckweed Common Field Speedwell

Thrift Family

- Nebrod Thrift
- **Dock Family**
- Waterpepper Sorrel Horned Dock French Sorrel Etna Sorrel

Blinks Family

Primrose Family

Scarlet Pimpernel Scarlet Pimpernel (Blueflowered) Blue Pimpernel Common Sowbread Spring Sowbread Primrose Brookweed

Buttercup Family

Blue Anemone An Anemone Traveller's Joy Lesser Celandine Love-in-a-mist Corn Buttercup Million-leaved Buttercup

Great Meadow-rue

Mignonette Family White Mignonette

Buckthorn Family Mediterranean Buckthorn

Rose Family

Juneberry A Hawthorn Hawthorn Wood Avens A Cinquefoil Creeping Cinqufoil Blackthorn Almond-leaved Pear

Location/Notes

Fiumefreddo Fiumefreddo

Above Hotel Pomieri

Fiumefreddo Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Above Milo Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Above Milo

Fiumefreddo

Fiumefreddo

Enna Services Near Castellana Sicula Gibilmanna Above Linguaglossa Near Hotel Pomieri Fiumefreddo

Piano Battaglia Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Fiumefreddo Piano Battaglia Near Collesano Fiumefreddo Piano Battaglia Below Etna Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Cottone

Idsnello Gorge

Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Near Piano Torre Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Case Perrotta Piano Provenzana Fiumefreddo Bosco di Ficuzza Below Petralia Sporana

Pyrus communis Rosa canina agg. Rubus fruticosus agg. Sanguisorba minor Sorbus aria

Rubiaceae Galium aparine Rubia peregrina Sheradia arvensis Galium murale Salicaceae Populus alba Salix alba

Santalaceae

Osyris alba Viscum album subsp. album

Sapindaceae Acer campestre Acer monspessulanum

Saxifragaceae Saxifraga bulbifera Saxifraga carpetana Saxifraga granulata

Scrophulariaceae Scrophularia canina Scrophularia peregrina Verbascum sinuatum

Simaroubaceae Ailanthus altissima

Solanaceae Solanum dulcemara Solanum nigrum

Urticaceae Parietaria judacea Parietaria officinalis Urtica dioica Urtica membranacea Urtica urens

Thymelaeaceae Daphne laureola

Verbenaceae Lantana camara

Common name

Wild Pear Dog Rose Bramble Salad Burnet Whitebeam

Bedstraw Family Cleavers Madder Field Madder

Willow Family White Poplar White Willow

Sandalwood Family Osyris Mistletoe

Maple Family Field Maple Montpelier Maple

Saxifrage Family Bulbous Saxifrage

Meadow Saxifrage

Figwort Family French Figwort

Wavy-leaved Mullein

Tree of Heaven family Tree of Heaven

Nightshade Family Woody Nightshade Black Nightshade

Nettle Family Pelitory-of-the-Wall -Nettle Mediterranean Nettle Small Nettle

Daphne Family Spurge Laurel

Verbena Family Lantana

Location/Notes

Near Hotel Pomieri Above Milo Above Milo Above Milo Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Above Linguaglossa Fiumefreddo Fiumefreddo Above Milo

Fiumefreddo Fiumefreddo

Roadside trees

Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Vallone Madonna degli Angeli

Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Piano Battaglia Above Linguaglossa

Fiumefreddo Fiumefreddo Isnello

Roadsides

Fiumefreddo Isnello Gorge

Fiumefreddo Fiumefreddo Fiumefreddo Fiumefreddo Fiumefreddo

Below Etna

Enna Services (planted)

Violaceae Viola aethnensis** Viola odorata Viola riviniana

Monocots

Amaryllidaceae Allium nigrum

Allium roseum Allium subhirsutum Allium triquetrum Narcissus tazetta

Asparagaceae

Agave americana Asparagus acutifolius Bellevalia dubia Bellevalia romana Drimia (Urginea) maritima Leopoldia comosa Muscari neglectum Ornithogalum arabicum Ornithogalum montanum Ornithogalum narbonense Ornithogalum umbellatum Ruscus aculeatus Scilla bifolia

Cyperaceae

Carex caryophyllea Carex cuprina (otrubae) Cyperus papyrus (subsp. siculus**)

Dioscoraceae Dioscorea (Tamus) communis

Iridaceae

Gladiolus italicus Hermodactylus tuberosus Iris pseudacorus Iris pseudopumila (Purple form) Iris pseudopumila (Yellow two-tone form) Moraea sisyrinchium

Juncaceae Juncus bufonius Luzula forsteri

Liliaceae Gagea liotardii (G. fragifera, G. fistulosa)

Common name

Violet Family

Etna Pansy Sweet Violet Common Dog Violet

Monocotyledons Daffodil Family

Rosy Garlic Hairy Garlic Three-cornered Leek Bunch-flowered Narcissus

Asparagus Family

Agave or Century Plant Prickly Asparagus (blue) (white) Sea Squill Tassel Hyacinth Grape Hyacinth A Star of Bethlehem Mountain Star of Bethlehem A Spiked Star of Bethlehem Star of Bethlehem Butcher's-broom Alpine Squill

Sedge Family

Spring Sedge False Fox Sedge Papyrus

Yam Family

Black Bryony

Iris Family

Italian Gladiolus Snake's-head Iris Yellow Flag An Iris An Iris Barbary Nut

Rush Family

Toad Rush Southern Woodrush

Lily Family A Yellow Star of Bethlehem Piano Provenzana Near Hotel Pomieri Near Hotel Pomieri

Location/Notes

Bosco di Ficuzza Isnello Gorge Bosco di Ficuzza Fiumefreddo Piano Battaglia

Near Collesano Gibilmanna Below Petralia Sporana Below Petralia Sporana Isnello Gorge Above Linguaglossa Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Near Collesano Piano Battaglia Near Collesano Below Petralia Sporana Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Piano Battaglia

Below Etna Fiumefreddo Fiumefreddo

Fiumefreddo

Near Castellana Sicula Above Linguaglossa, in seed Fiumefreddo Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Vallone Madonna degli Angeli Bosco di Ficuzza

Fiumefreddo Bosco di Ficuzza

Piano Battaglia

Scientific name	Common name	Location/Notes
Orchidaceae	Orchid Family	
	ng group, and subject to debate Kew).This list follows the Kew c	between 'splitters' (eg. Delforge) and 'lumpers lassification.
Anacamptis morio subsp. morio	Green-winged Orchid	Above Linguaglossa
Anacamptis morio subsp. longicornu	Long-spurred Orchid	Below Petralia Soprana
Anacamptis morio subsp. picta	a Green-winged Orchid	Above Linguaglossa
Anacamptis papilionacea (var.grandiflora) A. x gennarii (A. papilionacea x A.	Pink Butterfly Orchid	Above Linguaglossa
morio)	a hybrid Orchid	Above Linguaglossa
Dactylorhiza romana subsp. romana	Roman Orchid	Above Linguaglossa
Dactylorhiza sambucina	Elder-flowered Orchid	Below Etna
Limodora abortivum	Violet Bird's-nest Orchid	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
Neotinea maculata	Dense-flowered Orchid	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
Neotinea tridentata	Toothed Orchid	Above Linguaglossa
Ophrys apifera	Bee Orchid	Gibilmanna
Ophrys bertolonii	Bertoloni's Bee Orchid	Below Petralia Soprana
Ophrys fuciflora subsp. lacaitae	Lacaita's Ophrys	Below Piano Torre
Ophrys fuciflora subsp.	Beaked Ophrys	Bosco di Ficuzza
oxyrrhynchos Ophrys fusca agg.	Sombre Bee Orchid	Below Petralia Soprana
Ophrys fusca subsp. pallida	Pale Ophrys	Bosco di Ficuzza
O. f. subsp. fusca x pallida	a hybrid Ophrys	Bosco di Ficuzza
<i>O. lutea</i> ssp. <i>galilea</i> (formerly		
archimedea)**	-	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
<i>Ophrys lutea</i> subsp. <i>lutea</i>	Yellow Bee Orchid	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
Ophrys sphegodes subsp. atrata (incubacea) O. tenthredinifera (formerly	Dark Ophrys	Below Petralia Soprana
grandiflora **)	a Sawfly Orchid	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
Orchis anthroporphora	Man Orchid	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
Orchis brancifortii*	Brancifort's Orchid	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
Orchis italica	Naked Man Orchid	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
Orchis provincialis	Provence Orchid	Bosco di Ficuzza
Serapias lingua	Tongue Orchid	Below Petralia Soprana
Serapias vomeracea	Plough-shareTongue Orchid	Below Petralia Soprana
Serapias x intermedia	A hybrid Tongue Orchid	Below Petralia Soprana
Poaceae	Grass Family	
Aegilops ovalis	Aegilops	Near Castellana Sicula
Aira caryophyllea	Silver Hair-grass	Above Milo
Ampelodesmos mauritanicus	Mauritanian Grass	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
Anthoxanthum odorata	Sweet Vernal Grass	Above Milo
Arundo donax	Giant Reed	Fiumefreddo
Avena sterilis	Winter Wild-oat	Near Castellana Sicula
Briza maxima	Great Quaking-grass	Above Milo
Catapodium rigidum	Fern Grass	Fiumefreddo
Cynosurus echinatus	Rough Dog's-tail	Near Castellana Sicula
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's Foot	Gibilmanna
Festuca vivipara	Viviperous Fescue	Above Milo
Hordeum murinum	Wall Barley	Near Castellana Sicula
Lagurus ovatus	Hare's-tail Grass	Above Linguaglossa
Lolium perenne	Perennial Rye-grass	Near Castellana Sicula
Melica uniflora	Wood Melick	Gibilmanna
Phragmites australis	Common Reed	Roadsides

Scientific name	Common name	Location/Notes
Sesleria nitida	-	Vallone Madonna degli Angeli
Sparganiaceae	Bur-reed Family	
Sparganium erectum	Branched Bur-reed	Fiumefreddo
Xanthorrhoeaceae	Asphodel Family	
Asphodeline lutea	Yellow Asphodel	Below Etna
Asphodelus aestivus	Common Asphodel	Widespread
FUNGI		
Lecanoromycetes	LICHENS	
Stereocaulon vesuvianum	Mount Vesuvius Lichen	Slopes of Etna

Birds (\checkmark = recorded but not counted; H = heard, LO = leader only)

			Мау						
	Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Black Kite	Milvus migrans				✓			
2	Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Yellow-legged Gull	Larus michahellis	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
4	Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	Columba livia (feral)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Common Wood Pigeon	Columba palumbus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	European Turtle Dove	Streptopelia turtur						Н	
7	Eurasian Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
8	Common Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus	✓	✓	✓	✓	Н	Н	Н
9	Tawny Owl	Strix aluco	✓				н		
10	Common Swift	Apus apus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	Pallid Swift	Apus pallidus			✓				
12	European Bee-eater	Merops apiaster	✓	✓	✓				
13	Eurasian Hoopoe	Upupa epops	Н	✓	✓	✓			
14	Great Spotted Woodpecker	Dendrocopos major			✓		✓	✓	✓
15	Common Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
16	Eurasian Golden Oriole	Oriolus oriolus				2			
17	Eurasian Jay	Garrulus glandarius	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18	Eurasian Magpie	Pica pica	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19	Red -billed Chough	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax					✓	✓	✓
20	Western Jackdaw	Coloeus monedula				✓		✓	✓
21	Hooded Crow	Corvus cornix	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
22	Northern Raven	Corvus corax			✓	✓	✓	✓	
23	Coal Tit	Periparus ater			✓		✓	✓	
24	Eurasian Blue Tit	Cyanistes caeruleus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25	Great Tit	Parus major	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
26	Woodlark	Lullula arborea					✓	✓	✓
27	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28	Sand Martin	Riparia riparia							✓
29	Common House Martin	Delichon urbicum	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30	Long-tailed Tit	Aegithalos caudatus siculus					✓	✓	✓
31	Cetti's Warbler	Cettia cetti		н	✓			н	Н
32	Common Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
33	Wood Warbler	Phylloscopus sibilatrix			✓				
34	Zitting Cisticola	Cisticola juncidis		✓					
35	Eurasian Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

						Мау			
	Common name	Scientific name	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
36	Subalpine Warbler	Sylvia cantillans		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
37	Sardinian Warbler	Sylvia melanocephala		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
38	Common Firecrest	Regulus ignicapilla		н	✓		✓	✓	✓
39	Eurasian Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	Н	Н	✓	Н	✓	✓	Н
40	Eurasian Nuthatch	Sitta europaea			✓		✓	✓	✓
41	Short-toed Treecreeper	Certhia brachydactyla			✓		✓		✓
42	Spotless Starling	Sturnus unicolor	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
43	Common Blackbird	Turdus merula	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
44	Mistle Thrush	Turdus viscivorus						✓	✓
45	European Robin	Erithacus rubecula	✓				Н	✓	✓
46	Common Nightingale	Luscinia megarhynchos	н	✓	Н	✓		Н	Н
47	Black Redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros		✓					
48	European Stonechat	Saxicola torquata				✓			
49	Northern Wheatear	Oenanthe oenanthe		✓	✓				
50	Black-eared Wheatear	Oenanthe hispanica		✓					
51	Blue Rock Thrush	Monticola solitarius					Н		Н
52	Italian Sparrow	Passer italiae	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
53	Spanish Sparrow	Passer hispaniolensis	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
54	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Passer montanus		✓	✓				
55	Grey Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea		✓				✓	✓
56	White Wagtail	Motacilla alba		✓	✓	✓			✓
57	(a Blue-headed) Yellow Wagtail	Motacilla flava ssp.		✓					
58	Tree Pipit	Anthus trivialis			Н				
59	Common Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
60	European Greenfinch	Chloris chloris		Н					✓
61	Common Linnet	Linaria cannabina		✓					
62	European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis	✓	✓	✓	~	✓	✓	✓
63	European Serin	Serinus serinus	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
64	Corn Bunting	Emberiza calandra				✓		✓	Н
65	Rock Bunting	Emberiza cia			✓		✓		
66	Cirl Bunting	Emberiza cirlus					✓	✓	Н

Mammals (D=dead; S=signs of)

1	Western Hedgehog	Erinaceus europaeus	D			
2	Red Fox	Vulpes vulpes			S	LO
3	Fallow Deer	Dama dama			S	✓
4	Rabbit	Oryctolagus cuniculus		✓		
5	Feral 'Wild' Pig				✓	✓

Amphibians & Reptiles

1	Moorish Gecko	Tarentola mauritanica	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
2	Western Green Lizard	Lacerta bilineata		✓		D			
3	Italian Wall Lizard	Podarcis sicula	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Sicilian Wall Lizard	Podarcis wagleriana					✓	✓	✓
5	Italian Three-toed Skink	Chalcides chalcides						✓	
6	Western Whip Snake	Hierophis viridiflavus					✓		

Butterflies

1	Swallowtail	Papilio machaon		✓			✓		✓
2	Large White	Pieris brassicae	\checkmark	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	\checkmark

		Scientific name	Мау								
	Common name		3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
3	Small White	Pieris rapae		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		
4	Orange Tip	Anthocharis cardamines					✓	✓			
5	Eastern Bath White	Pontia edusa				✓					
6	Clouded Yellow	Colias crocea		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
7	Small Copper	Lycaena phlaeas					✓	✓			
8	Little Blue	Cupido minimus					✓				
9	Holly Blue	Celastrina argiolus						✓	1		
10	Brown Argus	Aricia agestis				✓	✓		1		
11	Common Blue	Polyommatus icarus			✓	✓	✓	✓			
12	Red Admiral	Vanessa atalanta			✓			✓			
13	Painted Lady	Vanessa cardui						✓	1		
14	Queen of Spain Fritillary	Issoria lathonia			✓	✓					
15	Glanville Fritillary	Melitaea cinxia					✓	✓			
16	Aetherie Fritillary	Melitaea aetherie						✓	1		
17	Meadow Brown	Maniola jurtina				✓					
18	Southern Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria aegeria		✓					 ✓ 		
19	Wall Brown	Lasiommata megera			✓	✓		✓	 ✓ 		
20	Small Heath	Coenonympha pamphilus		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

Macros Moths (C=caterpillar)

1	Forester	Adscita statices				✓	
2	Grass Eggar	Lasiocampa trifolii			С	С	
3	A Lackey (not found in UK)	Malacosoma franconica			С		
4	Humming-bird Hawk-moth	Macroglossum stellatarum				✓	
5	Pine Processionary Moth - tent	Thaumetopoea pityocampa	✓	✓	✓		
6	Ragusa's Nine-spotted Moth	Amata kruegeri					✓
7	Burnet Companion	Euclidia glyphica					✓
8	Four-spotted	Tyta luctuosa					✓

Other Invertebrates

Copper Demoiselle, *Calopteryx haemorrhoidalis* Azure Damselfly, *Coenagrion puella* Red-veined Darter, *Sympetrum fonscolombii* Groundhopper sp., *Tetrigidae sp.* Ascalaphid, *Libelloides coccajus* Wasp sp., *Vespa* sp. Honey Bee, *Apis mellifera* Chafer, *Oxythyria funesta* Spanish Fly (a blister beetle), *Lytta vesicolaria* Musk Beetle (a long-horn), *Aromia moschata* A Sand Beetle, *Pimelia* sp. Island Bluetail, *Ischnura genei* Lesser Emperor, *Anax parthenope* Black-and-red Bug, *Lygaeus sp.* Froghopper, *Cercopis vulnerata* Beefly, *Bombylius sp.* Carpenter Bee, *Xylocopa violacea* White-tailed Bumblebee, *Bombus lucorum* 7-Spot Ladybird, *Coccinella 7-punctata* Fat-thigh Beetle, *Oedemera nobilis* A black long-horn with white stripe, *Agapanthia suturalis* Ladybird Spider, *Eresus kollari*

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Italian Sainfoin



Sweet Pea