

# **WILDLIFE TRAVEL**

## **Crete 2016**



#	DATE	LOCATIONS & NOTES
1	14th April	London Gatwick to Heraklion, Armeni minoan cemetery, Sofia Hotel
2	15th April	Plakias – Kakomouri headland
3	16th April	Spili 'bumps'
4	17th April	Souda
5	18th April	Kourtaliotis gorge, Faistos and Agia Triada
6	19th April	Igios Ioannis Forest and Kotsifos Gorge
7	20th April	Amari valley
8	21st April	Return to UK

**14th April. Arrival and Plakias.** We arrived on the early afternoon flight to Chania airport where we met Yiannis and boarded our bus to Plakias. We had a short stop on the way at the Armeni Minoan cemetery, where we saw our first orchids including *Serapias lingua*, *Ophrys heldreichii*, *Orchis italica* and *Ophrys bombyliflora* and other plants such as *Osiris alba* (Sandalwood) before continuing to our hotel in Plakias.

**15th April. Plakias – Kakomouri headland.**

We initially walked along the beach towards the headland, looking at the sand-dune plants. We saw *Silene colorata*, *Echium arenarium*, *Medicago marina*, *Scorzonera cretica*, *Cakile maritima*, *Glaucium flavum* and *Euphorbia paralias*. We then walked up to the headland at the end of Plakias Bay. The bank bordering the path provided our first plants of the Cretan countryside with *Saturja thunbergii*, *Aspalathium bituminosa* and *Thymelea hirsuta*. A large number of interesting members of the Fabaceae family were also identified.



*Glaucium flavum* – yellow-horned poppy. Common along the coast and popular with bees.



*Ophrys gortynia* on Kakamouri headland

Due to the early season, *Anemone hortensis* had finished flowering but we saw some beautiful white flowered *Ranunculus asiaticus* (turban buttercup). We also saw the first orchids for the day including *Ophrys candida*, *Anacamptis pyramidalis* and *Orchis italica*. Higher up we were to find *Ophrys gortynia* a single plant of *Ophrys apifera* and *Ophrys episcopalis*.

*Aristolochia cretica* the foodplant of the Cretan Festoon was seen on the higher terraces. Both *Gynandriris sisyrinchium* and *G. monophylla* (identified from its single leaf) were found. The calm and warm weather contributed to a large number of butterflies being on the wing, as well as many insects. We saw Cretan Festoon, Swallowtail, Wall Brown and Eastern Dappled White. Birds seen included Raven, Whinchat, Blue Rock Thrush, Sardinian Warbler, Common Sandpiper and Common Buzzard.

**16th April. Spili 'Bumps'.** A sunny and warm day without a cloud in the sky as we ascended to the orchid heaven of the Spili Bumps, one of the classic wildflower destinations in Crete if not the Mediterranean, to look for an extraordinary number of orchids and other plants to be found here.

Many plants immediately drew our attention including *Erodium gruinum* with large pale blue flowers, and the large flower spike of an *Allium nigrum*. A little diversion produced *Fritillaria messanensis* which had just escaped trampling by sheep.

Masses of *Orchis italica* were to be seen on the banks and once we started to look more closely other orchids were found. *Anacamptis laxiflora* was quite common in a wet field below and we soon found one of the iconic orchids of crete, *Ophrys ariadne*.

Other orchids such as *Anacamptis boryi*, *Orchis pauciflora*, *Orchis quadripunctata*, *Ophrys heldreichii*, *Orchis anthropophora* then followed. A little further into a stony field we also found the beautiful *Orchis papilionacea*. We looked for the flowers of *Iris cretensis* but they had all finished.



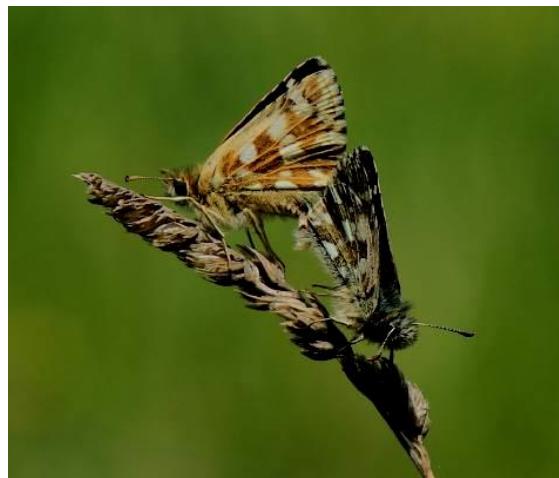
*Anacamptis boryi* (above left), *Orchis italica* (above right)  
*Orchis papilionacea* (below left), *Serapias lingua* (below right)



Another important aspect of the ecology of this area is the presence of the beautiful tulip *Tulipa doerfleri* that grows in abundance within the patchwork of cultivated fields. Due to the early season mostly had finished but we were able to find a number of good examples in flower still.



*Tulipa doerfleri* - this species occurs only in the Yous Kambos area of Central Crete and is considered by many authorities to be endemic to Crete.



Butterflies during the day included Oberthurs Grizzled Skipper (above right), Brown Argus, Common Blue, Holly Blue, Painted Lady, Clouded Yellow, and Eastern Dappled White.

**17th April. Souda.** This morning we walked along the coastal road, seeing the Cretan endemic *Ebenus cretica* for the first time. The pink-flowered bushes grew all along the banks, with the azure-coloured sea making a magnificent background. On the beach itself we could see age-old *Juniperus oxycedrus*. Walking along the road we saw the first flowers of *Ptilostemon chamaepeuce*, *Lythrum junceum*, *Linum strictum* and another endemic, the diminutive *Allium rubrovitatum*. *Chrysanthemum coronaria* and *Echium plantagineum* added bold splashes of colour along the way. By midday we had reached the beach at the end of coastal road and retired to a cafe for our sandwiches and refreshments. We then walked closer to an area at the end of the beach where we could see several individuals of the endemic *Phoenix theophrastus*, the Cretan Palm, growing in a grove. Several species of dragonfly and the tiger beetle *Cicindela littoralis* were around a small freshwater pool.





*Ebenus creticus* (left) and *Phoenix theophrastus* (right)



*Cicindela littoralis* – a tiger beetle

**18th April. Faistos and Agia Triada** We boarded our mini-bus this morning for the journey to Faistos, stopping on the way in the Kourtaliotiko gorge to look for *Cyclamen creticum*. Yiannis found a couple of plants and called the group to see them. Griffon Vultures in the meantime were circling above the gorge.

We then continued our journey to Faistos. The archaeological site was quite dry but we found some *Campanula erinus* and *Centaurium pulchellum* still in flower. Whilst at the site we had excellent views of Scarce Swallowtail and one Red Admiral. We had our lunch in the shade of the pines outside and started our walk to Agia Triada. The road side vegetation was pretty dried up but we saw *Bellardia trixago*, *Echium angustifolium* and much insect fauna such as the endemic jewel beetle *Julodis pubescens* subsp *yveni*. Meadow Brown, Swallowtail and Lulworth Skipper were seen. We also found the endemic *Phlomis cretica* in good flower on the verge as well as plenty of *Ebenus cretica*. One plant of *Serapias cordigera* with a couple of good flowers was seen, as well as another one outside Agia Triada. *Anacamptis fragrans* was also growing neaby. After visiting the site we returned to our hotel in Plakias. Birds seen included Hoopoe, Tree Sparrow and Blue Rock Thrush.



*Serapias cordigera*, Agias Triada (left), *Orchis simia* found in the forest (middle) and *Campanula tubulosa* growing in the gorge (right)

**19th April. Kotsifos Gorge.** Another sunny day greeted us for our descent through the Kotsifos Gorge. First though we headed for the village of Agios Ioannis where the taxis dropped us off at the start of a forest track and we spent the first hour or so meandering along a forest track where we saw the *Cypressus sempervirens* forest together with a rich shrub layer of *Arbutus unedo*, *Cistus salvifolius*, *C. creticus*, *Osyrис alba* and *Erica arborea*. Other notable plants found along the way included *Orchis simia* and a perfect specimen of *Ophrys candida*.

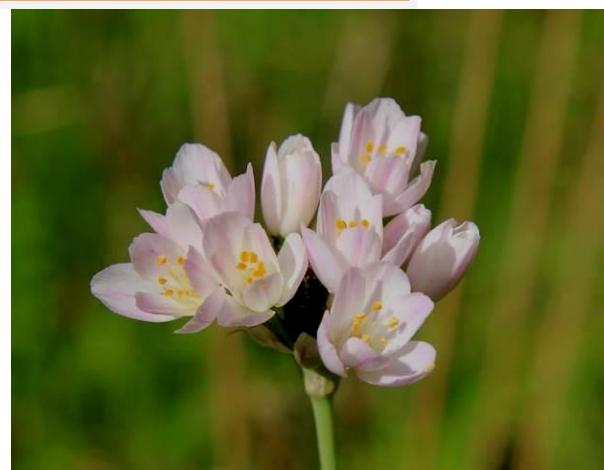
We emerged from the forest above the village and wound our way down the narrow streets before descending the Kotsifos gorge. The walk produced many new plants including *Procopia cretica*, *Linum arborescens*, *Verbascum arcturus*, *V. macrurum*, *Ricotia cretica* and *Scrophularia peregrina*. Crag Martins flew up and down the gorge and high above us Jackdaws circled noisily as they returned to their cliff-face nests. Butterflies were also very abundant during the walk and we saw the endemic Cretan Heath and Cretan Festoon, as well as Cleopatra and Southern Comma. Balkan Green Lizards were basking along the road but would disappear very quickly into the verge.



*Cistus salvifolius* (above left) and *Convolvulus elegantissimus* (above right)



Cretan festoon proved to be frequent sight during the trip.



*Dracunculus vulgaris*, the dragon arum near Myrthios and *Allium roseum* seen in the forest.

After a delicious taverna lunch at the Mirthios we started on our return journey down through the olive groves once more, where we found many specimens of *Dranunculus vulgaris* and *Petromarula pinnata* in flower.

**20th April. Amari Valley.** Once again we headed towards Spili but continuing further past Gerakari into the Amari valley.

Our first stop was at the village of Meronas where we visited the painted church in the village and heard about the special icons that were kept in the church and the frescoes on the walls. We then carried on with our journey round the valley with a short walk to see another small church of Agia Paraskevi, going past fields brightly coloured with *Galactides tomentosa* and another field full of *Gladiolus italicus* and *Allium nigrum*.

Our final stop was the village of Thronos where we saw the small painted church built on the site of the 5th century basilica and then carried on to Meronas for our typically cretan lunch at the small taverna.



Left: *Petromarula pinnata* – rock lettuce an endemic plant and the only member of its genus. Fairly widespread across Crete.

*Anchusa azurea* (below)



**21st April. Departure day.** We thanked our hosts at the hotel and departed, returning to Chania airport for our early afternoon flight back home.

	<b>SCIENTIFIC NAME</b>	<b>ENGLISH NAME</b>	<b>Seen</b>
<b>Ferns</b>			
	<i>Asplenium ceterach</i>	Rustyback	x
	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	x
<b>Cupressaceae (cypress)</b>			
	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	Italian Cypress	x
	<i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i>	Prickly Juniper	x
<b>Pinaceae (pine)</b>			
	<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Aleppo Pine	x
<b>DICOTYLEDONS</b>			
<b>Anacardiaceae (pistachio)</b>			
	<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastic Tree	x
<b>Apiaceae (carrot – umbellifers)</b>			
	<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	Rock Samphire	x
	<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot	x
	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel	x
	<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i>	Tubular Water Dropwort	X
	<i>Pseudorlaya pumila</i>		x
	<i>Scaligeria cretica</i>		x
	<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's Needle	x
	<i>Smyrnium olusatrum</i>	Alexanders	x
	<i>Smyrnium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved Alexanders	x
	<i>Tordylium apulum</i>		x
<b>Aristolochiaceae (birthwort)</b>			
	<i>Aristolochia cretica</i>	Cretan Birthwort	x
	<i>Aristolochia sempervirens</i>		x
<b>Asteraceae (daisy – composites)</b>			
	<i>Crepis pulra</i>	(hawksbeard)	x
	<i>Crupina crupinastrum</i>	False Saw-wort	x
	<i>Filago pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Cudweed	x
	<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>		x
	<i>Glebionis coronarium</i>	Crown Daisy	x
	<i>Glebionis segetum</i>	Corn marigold	x
	<i>Helichrysum barrelieri</i>		x
	<i>Hyoseris scabra</i>		x
	<i>Notobasis syriaca</i>	Syrian Thistle	x
	<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>		x
	<i>Phagnalon rupestre ssp graecum</i>		x
	<i>Ptilostemon chamaepeuce</i>	Shrubby Knapweed	x
	<i>Reichardia picroides</i>		x
	<i>Scorzonera cretica</i>	Cretan Viper's Grass	x
	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Smooth Sow Thistle	x
	<i>Silybum marianum</i>		x
	<i>Tragopogon sinuatus</i>	Goat's Beard	x
<b>Boraginaceae (borage)</b>			
	<i>Anchusa azurea</i>	Large Blue Alkanet	x
	<i>Anchusa undulata</i>		x
	<i>Cerinthe major</i>	Honeywort	x
	<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	Cretan Hound's-tongue	x
	<i>Echium angustifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved Bugloss	x
	<i>Echium arenarium</i>	(bugloss)	x
	<i>Echium italicum</i>	Pale Bugloss	x
	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Viper's Bugloss	x
	<i>Onosma graeca</i>	Greek Goldendrop	x
	<i>Procopia cretica</i>		x
<b>Brassicaceae (cabbage - crucifers)</b>			
	<i>Biscutella didyma</i>	Buckler Mustard	x
	<i>Brassica tournefortii</i>		x
	<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sea Rocket	x

	<b>SCIENTIFIC NAME</b>	<b>ENGLISH NAME</b>	<b>Seen</b>
	<i>Erucaria hispanica</i>		x
	<i>Hirschfeldia incana</i>		x
	<i>Malcolmia sp.</i>		x
	<i>Ricotia cretica</i>		x
	<i>Nasturtium officinale</i>	Watercress	x
	<i>Sinapis alba</i>	White Mustard	x
	<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge mustard	x
	<b>Campanulaceae (campanula)</b>		
	<i>Campanula erinus</i>		x
	<i>Campanula tubulosa</i>		x
	<i>Petromarula pinnata</i>	Rock lettuce	x
	<b>Dipsacaceae</b>		
	<i>Knautia integrifolia</i>	Field Scabious	x
	<b>Caryophyllaceae (carnation)</b>		
	<i>Petrorhagia dubia</i>	Hairy Pink	x
	<i>Silene bellidifolia</i>	Daisy-leaved Catchfly	x
	<i>Silene colorata</i>	Mediterranean Catchfly	x
	<i>Silene cretica</i>	Cretan Catchfly	x
	<i>Silene dichotoma</i>	Forked Catchfly	x
	<i>Silene gallica</i>	Small-flowered catchfly	x
	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder Campion	x
	<b>Cistaceae (rockrose)</b>		
	<i>Cistus creticus</i>	Cretan Cistus	x
	<i>Cistus salviifolius</i>	Sage-leaved Cistus	x
	<i>Fumana thymifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Rockrose	x
	<b>Convolvulaceae (bindweed)</b>		
	<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Bindweed	x
	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	x
	<i>Convolvulus elegantissimus</i>	Elegant Bindweed	x
	<b>Crassulaceae (stonecrop)</b>		
	<i>Umbilicus parviflorus</i>	Small-flowered Navelwort	x
	<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort	x
	<b>Cucurbitaceae (cucumber)</b>		
	<i>Bryonia cretica</i>		x
	<b>Euphorbiaceae (spurge)</b>		
	<i>Euphorbia acanthothamnos</i>	Greek Spiny Spurge	x
	<i>Euphorbia characias</i>	Large Mediterranean Spurge	x
	<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	Sun Spurge	x
	<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	Sea Spurge	x
	<i>Mercurialis annua</i>	Annual Mercury	x
	<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Castor-oil Plant	x
	<b>Fabaceae (pea)</b>		
	<i>Anagyris foetida</i>	Bean Trefoil	x
	<i>Anthyllis tetraphylla</i>	Bladder vetch	x
	<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Mediterranean Kidney Vetch	x
	<i>Aspalathium bituminosa</i>	Pitch Vetch	x
	<i>Calycotome villosa</i>	Spiny Broom	x
	<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	Carob	x
	<i>Coronilla securidaca</i>	Hatchet Vetch	x
	<i>Ebenus creticus</i>	Cretan Ebony	x
	<i>Hippocratea unisiliquosa</i>		x
	<i>Hymenocarpos circinnatus</i>		x
	<i>Lathyrus annuus</i>	Annual Yellow Vetchling	x
	<i>Lathyrus aphaca</i>		x
	<i>Lathyrus cicera</i>	Red Vetchling	x
	<i>Lotus edulis</i>	Edible Lotus	x
	<i>Lotus halophilus</i>		x
	<i>Lotus ornithopodioides</i>		x
	<i>Medicago arabica</i>		x

	<b>SCIENTIFIC NAME</b>	<b>ENGLISH NAME</b>	<b>Seen</b>
	<i>Medicago littoralis</i>	Coastal Medick	x
	<i>Medicago marina</i>	Sea Medick	x
	<i>Medicago orbicularis</i>		x
	<i>Medicago polymorpha</i>	Toothed Medick	x
	<i>Melilotus indicus</i>	Small Melilot	x
	<i>Onobrychis aequidentata</i>	Equal-toothed Sanfoin	x
	<i>Onobrychis crista-galli</i>	Cockscomb Sanfoin	x
	<i>Ononis viscosa</i>	Sticky Restharrow	x
	<i>Scorpiurus muricatus</i>	Spiny Scorpion-vetch	x
	<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom	x
	<i>Tetragonolobus purpureus</i>	Asparagus Pea	x
	<i>Trifolium angustifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved Clover	x
	<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Hop Trefoil	x
	<i>Trifolium fragiferum</i>	Strawberry Clover	x
	<i>Trifolium nigrescens</i>	Annual White Clover	x
	<i>Trifolium resupinatum</i>	Reversed Clover	x
	<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>	Star Clover	x
	<i>Trifolium tomentosum</i>	Woolly Clover	x
	<i>Trifolium uniflorum</i>	One-flowered Clover	x
	<i>Trigonella graeca</i>		x
	<i>Vicia bithynica</i>		x
	<i>Vicia cretica</i>	Cretan Vetch	x
	<i>Vicia hybrida</i>	Hairy Yellow-vetch	x
	<i>Vicia lutea</i>	Hairy Yellow Vetchling	x
	<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common Vetch	x
	<i>Vicia villosa</i>	Hairy vetch	x
	<b>Ericaceae (heather)</b>		
	<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry tree	x
	<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree Heather	x
	<b>Fagaceae (beech)</b>		
	<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	Kermes Oak	x
	<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy Oak	x
	<b>Gentianaceae (gentian)</b>		
	<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-wort	x
	<i>Centaurium pulcellum</i>	(centaury)	x
	<i>Centaurium maritimum</i>		x
	<b>Geraniaceae (geranium)</b>		
	<i>Erodium gruinum</i>	Long-beaked Storksbill	x
	<i>Erodium laciniatum</i>		x
	<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Cranesbill	x
	<i>Geranium purpureum</i>		x
	<b>Hypericaceae (St John's wort)</b>		
	<i>Hypericum empetrifolium</i>		x
	<i>Hypericum sp</i>		x
	<b>Lamiaceae (mint)</b>		
	<i>Micromeria nervosa</i>		x
	<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	Jerusalem Sage	x
	<i>Phlomis cretica</i>	(Jerusalem sage)	x
	<i>Prasium majus</i>		x
	<i>Salvia fruticosa (triloba)</i>	Three-lobed Sage	x
	<i>Satureja thymbra</i>	(savory)	x
	<i>Scutellaria sieberi</i>	(skullcap)	x
	<i>Stachys cretica</i>	Cretan Woundwort	x
	<i>Thymbra capitata</i>		x
	<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Chaste-tree	x
	<b>Linaceae (flax)</b>		
	<i>Linum arboreum</i>	Tree Flax	x
	<i>Linum bienne</i>	Pale Flax	x
	<i>Linum strictum</i>	Upright yellow flax	x

	<b>SCIENTIFIC NAME</b>	<b>ENGLISH NAME</b>	<b>Seen</b>
<b>Lythraceae (loosestrife)</b>			
	<i>Lythrum junceum</i>	False Grass-poly	x
	<i>Lythrum hyssipifolium</i>		x
<b>Malvaceae (Mallow)</b>			
	<i>Lavatera cretica</i>	Small-flowered Tree Mallow	x
	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow	x
<b>Moraceae (Mulberry)</b>			
	<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig	x
	<i>Morus alba</i>	White mulberry	x
<b>Myrtaceae (Myrtle)</b>			
	<i>Myrtus communis</i>	Myrtle	x
<b>Oleaceae (Olive)</b>			
	<i>Olea europaea</i>	Wild Olive	x
<b>Orobanchaceae (Broomrape)</b>			
	<i>Bellardia trixago</i>		x
	<i>Orobanche pubescens</i>	Hairy Broomrape	x
	<i>Orobanche purpurea</i>	Purple Broomrape	x
	<i>Orobanche ramosa</i>	Branched Broomrape	x
	<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	Southern Red Bartsia	x
	<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	Yellow Bartsia	x
<b>Papaveraceae (Poppy)</b>			
	<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	Yellow Horned Poppy	x
	<i>Papaver argemone</i>	Prickly Poppy	x
	<i>Papaver purpureomarginatum</i>		x
	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Corn Poppy	x
<b>Polygalaceae (Milkwort)</b>			
	<i>Polygala venulosa</i>	(milkwort)	x
<b>Plantaginaceae (Plantain)</b>			
	<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-leaved Toadflax	x
	<i>Linaria sp</i>		x
	<i>Misopates orontium</i>	Weasel Snout	x
	<i>Plantago afra</i>	Branched Plantain	x
	<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	Buck's Horn plantain	x
	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	x
	<i>Plantago major</i>		x
	<i>Veronica cymbalaria</i>	Pale Speedwell	x
	<i>Veronica anagallis-aquatica</i>		x
<b>Platanaceae (plane)</b>			
	<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	Oriental Plane	x
<b>Primulaceae (primrose)</b>			
	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel	x
	<i>Cyclamen creticum</i>	Cretan Cyclamen	x
<b>Polygonaceae (sorrel)</b>			
	<i>Rumex tuberosus</i>		x
<b>Ranunculaceae (Buttercup)</b>			
	<i>Ranunculus asiaticus</i>	Turban Buttercup	x
<b>Resedaceae (mignonette)</b>			
	<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Yellow Mignonette	x
	<i>Reseda luteola</i>		x
<b>Rosaceae (rose)</b>			
	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Common Hawthorn	x
	<i>Pyrus syriaca</i>	Syrian pear	x
	<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	Spiny Burnet	x
<b>Rubiaceae (madder)</b>			
	<i>Rubia tenuifolia</i>		x
	<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Field Madder	x
<b>Santalaceae (sandalwood)</b>			
	<i>Osyris alba</i>		x
	<i>Thesium humile</i>		x

	<b>SCIENTIFIC NAME</b>	<b>ENGLISH NAME</b>	<b>Seen</b>
<b>Scrophulariaceae (figwort)</b>			
	<i>Scrophularia lucida</i>		x
	<i>Scrophularia peregrina</i>	Nettle-leaved Figwort	x
	<i>Verbascum Arcturus</i>		x
	<i>Verbascum macrurum</i>		x
	<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>		x
<b>Thymelaceae (daphne)</b>			
	<i>Thymelaea hirsuta</i>		x
<b>Valerianaceae (valerian)</b>			
	<i>Valerianella sp</i>		x
	<i>Valeriana asarifolia</i>	Cretan Valerian	x
<b>Verbenaceae (vervain)</b>			
	<i>Verbena officinalis</i>	Vervain	x
<b>MONOCOTYLEDONS</b>			
<b>Amaryllidaceae (daffodil)</b>			
	<i>Allium nigrum</i>		x
	<i>Allium roseum</i>	Rose garlic	x
	<i>Allium rubrovittatum</i>		x
	<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	Sea Daffodil	x
<b>Araceae (arum)</b>			
	<i>Arisarum vulgaris</i>	Friar's Cowl	x
	<i>Arum concinnum</i>		x
	<i>Dracunculus vulgaris</i>	Dragon Arum	x
<b>Arecaceae (palm)</b>			
	<i>Phoenix theophrasti</i>	Cretan Date Palm	x
	<i>Washingtonia filifera</i>	California Fan palm	x
<b>Asparagaceae (asparagus)</b>			
	<i>Drimia (Urginea) maritima</i>	Sea Squill	x
	<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel Hyacinth	x
	<i>Muscari spreitzenhoferi</i>		x
	<i>Ornithogalum narbonense</i>		x
	<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i>		x
<b>Cyperaceae (sedge)</b>			
	<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>	Black Bog-rush	x
	<i>Scirpoides holoschoenus</i>		x
<b>Iridaceae (iris)</b>			
	<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Field Gladiolus	x
	<i>Moraea monophylla</i>		x
	<i>Moraea sisyrinchium</i>	Barbary Nut	x
<b>Liliaceae (lily)</b>			
	<i>Fritillaria messanensis</i>		x
	<i>Gagea graeca</i>		x
	<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's Broom	x
	<i>Tulipa doerfleri</i>		x
<b>Smilacaceae</b>			
	<i>Smilax aspera</i>		x
<b>Xanthorrhoeaceae (asphodel)</b>			
	<i>Asphodeline lutea</i>	Yellow Asphodel	x
	<i>Asphodelus ramosus</i>	Common Asphodel	x
<b>Orchidaceae (orchid)</b>			
	<i>Anacamptis boryi</i>		x
	<i>Anacamptis fragrans</i>	Fragrant Bug Orchid	x
	<i>Anacamptis laxiflora</i>	Lax-flowered Orchid	x
	<i>Anacamptis papilionacea</i>	Pink Butterfly Orchid	x
	<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Orchid	x
	<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	Bee Orchid	x
	<i>Ophrys ariadnae</i>		x
	<i>Ophrys bombyliflora</i>	Bumblebee Orchid	x
	<i>Ophrys candida</i>		x

<i>Ophrys creberimma</i>		x
<i>Ophrys episkopalis</i>		x
<i>Ophrys gortynia</i>		x
<i>Ophrys heldreichii</i>		x
<i>Ophrys iricolor</i>		x
<i>Ophrys sicula</i>		x
<i>Ophrys tenthredinifera</i>	Sawfly Orchid	x
<i>Orchis anthropophora</i>	Man Orchid	x
<i>Orchis italica</i>	Naked Man Orchid	x
<i>Orchis tridentata</i>	Milky Orchid	x
<i>Orchis pauciflora</i>	Few-flowered Orchid	x
<i>Orchis quadripunctata</i>	Four-spotted Orchid	x
<i>Orchis simia</i>	Monkey Orchid	x
<i>Serapias bergonii</i>		x
<i>Serapias cordigera ssp cretica</i>		x
<i>Serapias lingua</i>		x
<i>Serapias parviflora</i>		x
<b>Poaceae (grass)</b>		
<i>Aeluropus littoralis</i>		x
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed	x
<i>Briza maxima</i>	Large Quaking Grass	x
<i>Hyparrhenia hirta</i>		x
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	Hare's Tail	x

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<b>Family Accipitridae (Hawks and Eagles)</b>										
Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>		x			x	x	x		
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		x		x	x			x	
Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>			x						
<b>Family Falconidae (Falcons)</b>										
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		x			x	x	x		
<b>Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers)</b>										
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		x							
<b>Family Laridae (Gulls)</b>										
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>		x	x	x	x				
<b>Family Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)</b>										
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>					x	x			
Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>			x			x			
<b>Family Apodidae (Swifts)</b>										
Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		x			x				
<b>Family Upupidae (Hoopoes)</b>										
Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>					x				
<b>Family Alaudidae (Larks)</b>										
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>			x						
<b>Family Hirundinidae (Swallows and Martins)</b>										
Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>		x				x			
House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>							x		
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
<b>Family Motacillidae (Pipits and Wagtails)</b>										
Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>			x						
<b>Family Troglodytidae (Wrens)</b>										
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>			x						
<b>Family Turdidae (Thrushes)</b>										
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
<b>Family Muscicapidae (Flycatchers and Chats)</b>										
Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>			x		x	x	x	x	
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		x							
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>		x				x	x		
<b>Family Sylviidae (Sylviid Warblers)</b>										
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>		x	x	x	x	x			
<b>Family Cettiidae (Bush Warblers)</b>										
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>			x			x	x		
<b>Family Paridae (Tits)</b>										
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>							x		
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>			x	x	x	x	x	x	
<b>Family Corvidae (Crows)</b>										
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>					x	x	x	x	
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		x		x	x	x	x		
<b>Family Passeridae (Sparrows)</b>										
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		x	x	x	x	x	x		
Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>					x	x			
<b>Family Fringillidae (Finches)</b>										
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>					x				
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>				x	x	x	x		
Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>						x			
<b>Family Emberizidae (Buntings)</b>										
Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>			x						

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<b>REPTILES</b>										
<b>Family Lacertidae (Lizards)</b>										
Balkan Green Lizard	<i>Lacerta trilineata</i>		x			x	x	x		
Cretan Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis cretensis</i>			x	x					
<b>Family Scincidae (Skinks)</b>										
Ocellated Skink	<i>Chalcides ocellatus</i>		x							
<b>BUTTERFLIES</b>										
<b>Family Papilionidae (Swallowtails)</b>										
Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>		x	x	x	x	x	x		
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>					x	x			
Cretan Festoon	<i>Zerynthia cretica</i>		x		x		x			
<b>Family Pieridae (Whites)</b>										
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		x	x	x	x	x	x		
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>				x	x		x		
Eastern Dappled White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>		x	x	x	x	x			
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x			
Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>						x			
<b>Family Nymphalidae (Admirals and Fritillaries)</b>										
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>		x	x	x	x		x		
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>					x	x			
Southern Comma	<i>Polygonia egea</i>						x	x		
<b>Family Satyridae (Browns)</b>										
Southern Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria aegeria</i>		x	x	x		x	x		
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	x		x	x	x	x	x		
Wall	<i>Lasiomata megera</i>		x		x			x		
Cretan Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha thyrsis</i>						x			
<b>Family Lycaenidae (Blues &amp; Coppers)</b>										
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>		x	x	x		x	x		
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>			x				x		
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	x								
Pygmy skipper	<i>Gegenes pumilio</i>	x					x	x		
Lulworth skipper	<i>Thymelicus acteon</i>		x		x	x	x			
Mallow skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>							x		
Holly blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>			x			x			
Oberthurs Grizzled skipper	<i>Pyrgus armoricanus</i>			x						
Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>						x	x		

<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	
<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>	Violet carpenter bee
<i>Megachile sicula</i>	A medium sized bee in the family Megachilidae.
<i>Anthophora sp. (possibly A. affinis)</i>	Flower bee
<i>Bombus</i> spp.	Bumblebees - at least 3 different species were observed possibly <i>Bombus terrestris</i> , <i>Bombus hortorum</i> and <i>Bombus lucorum</i> but other similar looking species may be present.
<i>Vespa sexmaculata</i>	A wasp seen in the olive groves around Plakias
<i>Polistes dominula</i>	European paper wasp nests were seen several times along the coast and at Spili.
<i>Apis mellifera</i>	Honeybee
<i>Acrida hungarica</i>	Long-nosed grasshopper
<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i>	Egyptian grasshopper (locust)
<i>Nezara viridula</i>	Southern green shieldbug – one adult found dead on balcony in Plakias and hundreds of nymphs seen together near Phaistos.

	<i>Eurydema ornatum</i>	A shieldbug
	<i>Graphosoma lineatum</i>	A shieldbug
	<i>Spilostethus pandurus</i>	ground bugs belonging to the family Lygaeidae – present on the beach
	<i>Pyrrhocoris apterus</i>	A bug adults and nymphs abundant near Phaistos
	<i>Sehirus sp.</i>	A burrowing bug in the family Cydnidae seen in Plakias. Several found dead on hotel balcony.
	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	A red dragonfly seen along the coast known as the Broad Scarlet or Scarlet Darter.
	<i>Anax imperator</i>	Emperor dragonfly seen along the coast
	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	Blue-tailed damselfly seen along the coast
	<i>Mylabris sp.</i>	A species of oil beetle
	<i>Cicindela littoralis</i>	A tiger beetle
	<i>Oxythyrea cincta</i>	A chafer beetle
	<i>Potosia sp.</i>	A black chafer beetle
	<i>Lachnaia sp.</i>	A leaf beetle
	<i>Trichodes alvearius</i>	Family Cleridae beetle
	<i>Julodis pubescens</i> subsp. <i>yveni</i>	A jewel, splendour or metallic beetle seen between Phaistos and Agia Triada
	<i>Myrmeleon sp.</i>	An ant lion



Left: *Megachile sicula* – a species of leafcutter bee that was seen along the coast.

Middle: European paper wasp, *Polistes dominula*; Right: Flower bee *Anthophora affinis*