

WILDLIFE TRAVEL



CYPRUS

23rd to 30th March 2022

Leaders

Philip Precey

Derbyshire



Front: *Ranunculus asiaticus*. Above: *Himantoglossum robertianum*

A gallery of photos from the trip is at

www.flickr.com/photos/wildlifetravel/albums/72177720297652084

Day One: 23rd March. Arrival in Cyprus

Following our respective journeys to our hotel on the Akamas peninsula, we gathered for an introduction to the holiday and our first meal together.

Day Two: 24th March. Baths of Aphrodite

The day started as we meant to go on with the week, taking breakfast on the terrace.

Picnics packed, and waterproofs stashed in our bags (just in case), we set off for our first introduction to the countryside and flora of Cyprus, walking along the coast road to the Baths of Aphrodite and then around towards Fontana Amorosa. The road verges and field edges seemed designed to distract the passing botanist, and that was before we'd even reached the 'Baths' themselves, a shady pool where myth would have us believe Aphrodite bathed after her exploits.

Beyond the Baths, the rocky hillsides were home to plenty of flowering *Cyclamen persicum*, and the Turban Buttercup *Ranunculus asiaticus*, as well as two species of *Bellevalia* and the lovely yellow-flowered 'spiny gorse' *Calicotome villosa*. Our first reptiles were seen along the way, with Snake-eyed Lacertid and the endemic Troodos Wall Lizard.

Heading home, we found our first orchids, in the form of *Ophrys umbilicata ssp flavomarginata* and the 'same same but different' *Ophrys umbilicata ssp umbilicata*.

Day Three: 25th March. Pegeia Forest

After last night's rains, the skies were entirely cloud-free this morning, although there was a chilly wind coming in off the sea from the north.

Meeting up with George, our driver for the next few days, we headed south across the peninsula to the Pegeia Forest, an area of Calabrian Pine woods on shallow soils over limestone. Once in the forest, we were immediately up to our eyes in orchids: the varied purple spikes of the Eastern Green-winged Orchid *Anacamptis morio ssp syriaca* were everywhere amongst the pine needles, and once we had our eye in, we soon began to spot *Ophrys* bee orchids of an almost bewildering variety. Recent taxonomic work by Kew has renamed a lot of these orchids, with various forms being 'downgraded' from species to subspecies to distinctive growth forms... meanwhile, the orchids themselves are still the same.

First off the mark was *Ophrys umbilicata ssp flavomarginata*, the form of Eastern Woodcock Orchid with a broad yellow margin to the lip, restricted to Cyprus and the Levantine coast from Syria to Israel. Nearby was the very distinctive *Ophrys argolica ssp elegans*, Cyprus's endemic form of Eyed Bee Orchid, looking very rakish with its shiny 'goggles' and swept-back pink 'wings'. Equally distinctive was the little Yellow Bee Orchid *Ophrys lutea ssp galilaea*, once known as *Ophrys sicula*.

Venturing further amongst the trees, and the orchids kept on coming... the tiny eastern Mediterranean form of Sombre Bee Orchid *Ophrys fusca ssp cinereophila* was certainly the least showy of the lot, whilst nearby was a much more impressive beast: the tall, chunky flower spikes of *Ophrys fuciflora ssp grandiflora* (*Ophrys levantina* in old money), with its squared off, velvety brown lip. Searching amongst the many spikes, we eventually found at least a couple of convincing specimens of another subspecies of Late Spider Orchid, *Ophrys fuciflora ssp bornmuelleri* with its

flared out 'skirts' and more strongly patterned 'speculum', and slightly later flowering period (just starting to come into flower, whilst the *grandiflora* spikes nearby were starting to fade.

Six species of Ophrys within a few steps of each other was certainly enough to keep us interested for a good while, but eventually we had to venture further into the forest...

An area of limestone outcrops, with a series of vernal rock pools, was home to its own special suite of plants: the little red succulent *Sedum microcarpum* (formerly *Telmissa microcarpa*) in the dried up ponds, with the fried egg flowers of Pond Water Crowfoot *Ranunculus peltatus*, the floating leaves of Mudwort *Limosella aquatica* and the 'green hair' of Horned Pondweed *Zannichellia palustris* all much in evidence.

Nearby, in the area of thin soils amongst the limestone rocks, we found several spikes of mostly not-yet-in-flower Lax-flowered Tongue Orchids, *Serapias vomeracea* ssp *laxiflora*, amongst which were a handful of the notably delicate *Serapias 'aphrodite'*, a form of *vomeracea* endemic to a handful of sites in the Akamas Peninsula.

These same thin soils were home to a few tiny stars of Sand Crocus *Romulea ramiflora*, abundant rosettes of the autumn flowering buttercup *Ranunculus bullatus*, with its broad leaves flat to the ground, and amongst them were the minute fronds of Small Adder's-tongue, *Ophioglossum luscianum*, a winter 'flowering' fern which loves this particular micro-habitat.

After making our way through the forest, we came back to the broad main track, where several lovely lilac Crown Anemones *Anemone coronaria* were in full flower, and we found our final orchid of the day, the deep velvety purple local form of Early Spider Orchid *Ophrys sphegodes* ssp *mammosa*.

The north wind took the edge off the warmth during the day, but some heat-loving beasts were on the move: butterflies included Orange-tip, Large White, a single Painted Lady and a couple of good sightings of Swallowtail. Reptiles were also in evidence, with Budak's Snake-eyed Skink doing its best to slip through the pine needles unnoticed, a couple of Eastern Bent-toed Geckos minding their own business beneath a rock, and a single chunky Starred Agama soaking up the rays. Unfortunately, the Bridled Skink nearby was less sociable, and disappeared into the shrubbery much too quickly.

A single Alpine Swift came swooping low overhead, while our first Long-legged Buzzard of the trip was hovering in the distance.

After taking in the views down from the escarpment towards the coast, with Paphos in the distance, we headed back to the bus, and back north across the peninsula to Aphrodite Beach.

Day Four: 26th March. Paphos

After another breakfast on the terrace, looking out over the blue waters of Chrysochou Bay, we were back on the bus, heading south again. Our first short stop gave the Quercophiles amongst us a chance to commune with the stately *Quercus infectoria* ssp *veneris*, the 'Magic Oak' of Polis. From here, we went on to George's home village of Polemi, where unfortunately the tulips weren't yet in

flower (no thanks to the cold late spring), but we did find several plants of Grape Hyacinth *Muscari neglectum* growing amongst the vines.

And so to our history lessons...

We started at the cave church and modern monastery of Agios Neophytos, where we paid homage to the beatified hermit and famous writer of letters, in his various resting places, and spotted a Long-legged Buzzard in the distance.

Next stop was the Tombs of the Kings, part of the Paphos World Heritage Site, where the Ptolemaic rulers of the island were buried in tombs carved from the soft sandstone, and where we found a beautiful male Rüppell's Warbler, single male Eastern Black-eared and Northern Wheatears, six flighty Stone Curlews, the lovely stemless knapweed *Centaurea aegialophila* and *Crassula alata*, while a Hoopoe and an impressive 'skein' of 60 Cormorants all flew past.

To learn more about the lifestyle of Paphos's ancient upper classes, we headed to Paphos Headland, and the spectacularly mosaiced 'houses', with their illustrations of hunting parties and their quarry, including Cyprus Mouflon and Chukar, as well as lions, tigers and bears (oh my).

Amongst the grasslands were plenty of the beautiful lilac *Moraea sisyrinchium* Barbary Nut irises, opening up after lunch as is their habit. Birds on this classic migrant trap included a big flock of around 100 'Yellow' Wagtails, mostly Black-headed birds headed to Turkey and the Balkans, together with smaller numbers of Blue-headed central European birds, Grey-headed Scandinavians and several of the '*superciliaris*' and '*dombrowskii*' intergrade birds, from those areas where Black-headed and Blue-headed meet, including ill-fated Ukrainian individuals... A couple of smart Cretzschmar's Buntings paused briefly on a stone wall, before flitting off northwards, and we found yet more Rüppell's Warblers: at least eight birds were present on the headland this afternoon. Corn Buntings jangled from the bushes, Black Redstarts flitted about the rocks, a Quail was singing from the long grass, and a single smart male Spanish Sparrow put in an appearance. But the bird highlight of the afternoon must have been all those smart bright wagtails, refueling before continuing their journey northwards.

Day Five: 27th March. Towards Neo Chorio

A gentle day today, walking the lanes and paths over the hillsides up behind the hotel.

With blue skies and warm sun, at last there were butterflies on the wing. The handsome Eastern Festoon was particularly noticeable, with 10 or more seen during the day, freshly emerged and now patrolling up and down the tracksides and hedges, in search of mates and patches of foodplant. The other highlight of the morning were a handful of tiny, bright Paphos Blues, a little endemic butterfly taking advantage of the warm temperatures.

We also saw our first Cleopatras of the trip, with a couple of bright males with their flashy orange fore-wings as well as a large pale female; and single Swallowtail, Painted Lady and Red Admiral all flitted past, on their way to some place important.

Birdwise, the hills were pretty empty today, although a singing Laughing Dove, an immature Bonelli's Eagle soaring high overhead, and a trio of Black Francolins calling from a barley field made up for the general quiet-ness.

Orchids were once again catching our attention, with the ever-perplexing *Ophrys* including three forms of *Ophrys umbilicata*: the yellow-margined *ssp flavomarginata* was the most numerous, if a little past their best, while fresher spikes included several of the tight-lipped, pink sepalled *ssp umbilicata* and at least one spike of the form with green sepals, that we used to call *Ophrys astarte*.

Down in the bottom of the valley were several spikes of the tall, dark *Ophrys sphegodes ssp mammosa*, but here our attention was almost entirely taken up by a quartet of new orchids for our list: the Giant Orchid, *Himantoglossum robertianum*, the Naked Man Orchid *Orchis italica*, a single dainty spike of Dense-flowered Orchid *Neotinea maculata*, and the star of the valley, the lovely yellow *Orchis punctulata*, with several spikes giving the Giant Orchid a run for its money, at over a foot tall.

Near our lunch spot, we enjoyed a great showing of Turban Buttercups *Ranunculus asiaticus*, with a handful of Crown Anemone *Anemone coronaria* growing amongst them, allowing an educational compare and contrast.

Back down to the coast, and we explored another area of exposed limestone, with some similar pools to those at Pegeia, amongst which we found more *Serapias* coming into flower, and the lovely lilac blooms of Barbary Nut bursting open in time for the afternoon.

Day Six: 28th March. Back to Paphos

This morning we headed back eastwards, with birds on our mind.

We began at Mandria beach, starting off with a side-by-side comparison between a male Northern Wheatear and an Isabelline Wheatear, both holding territory around the same bales of straw. A couple more of each were seen during the morning, as well as a couple of Stonechats, singing Crested Larks and a very confiding female Kestrel.

In 'the bowl', we found a sandy Tawny Pipit, striding around in the short turf, while a Short-toed Lark flew over and a female Black Redstart flitted around. A Black-winged Stilt was on the small pool, with four Ruff briefly flying over, and a Little Egret offshore, alongside another 'compare and contrast' pairing, with one each of Cormorant and Shag.

A raised rocky area was being used for 'hill-topping' by Swallowtail butterflies, with at least six individuals, including some chasing couples, and one particularly confiding individual nectaring on the *Allium* flowers.

Along the sandy upper-beach, we found Sea Medick *Medicago maritima*, the yellow rayless daisy *Anthemis rigida*, Sea Rocket *Cakile maritima*, Three-horned Stock *Matthiola tricuspidata* and plenty of Yellow Horned Poppy *Glaucium flavum*. Skittering about between clumps of vegetation we found at least three Schreiber's Spiny-footed Lizards, at home in these sandy areas.

From Mandria, it was just a short drive before our next stop, on the outskirts of the quiet village of Agia Varvara. The water tanks here were anything but quiet, with a cacophony of amphibian calls: the constant 'quacking' of abundant Cyprus Water Frogs and some trilling calls from Cyprus Green Toads. And yet, despite the large numbers of animals clearly at home in the ponds, we couldn't catch sight of a single one!

Bird-wise, the pools were very quiet, with just a single Green Sandpiper, a Common Snipe doing its very best to stay hidden, and a handful of Moorhen, until we got to the final pool, where we were lucky enough to get great views of two Little Crakes, creeping around the far bank. One in particular decided to climb out into the open for a preen, giving us all the opportunity to watch her through the 'scope as she sorted herself out.

Our first Clouded Yellow was on the wing here, alongside both Large and Small White.

After our fill of Little Crakes, and following our picnic lunch, we headed back to Paphos, this time to walk around the headland, outside the fence. The short turf areas were covered in Barbary Nut, with carpets of the beautiful lilac irises opened up in the afternoon warmth, looking great alongside the contrasting yellow *Anthemis rigida*.

Plenty of 'Yellow' Wagtails were still present, along with a handful of Red-throated Pipits, another new bird for our lists. On the beach, both Isabelline and Northern Wheatear were seen, a couple of 'Baltic' Lesser Black-backed Gulls flew past, and we found a small group of Golden Plovers roosting, well camouflaged, on the rocky shore. A single Common Sandpiper bobbing about on the rocks was our last new bird of the day, before heading back 'home'.

Day Seven: 29th March. Smygies

We spent the day walking gently down from the ridge of the Akamas, above the Smygies picnic site, to the hotel, stopping en route for a taverna lunch in the sleepy village of Neo Chorio.

At the top of the ride, an outcrop of serpentine rock was the habitat for a couple of Cypriot endemics associated with this rock: *Alyssum akamasicum* and *Thymus integer*.

Walking on a little, we found our first new orchids of the day: the yellow spikes of *Dactylorhiza romana* and what used to be considered to be the endemic Troodos Orchid but is now subsumed within Anatolian Orchid, *Orchis anatolica*. We also had our first really good look at the Dense-flowered Orchid *Neotinea maculata*.

Meanwhile, a scratchy song coming from the slopes around us revealed the presence of Cyprus Warblers, with at least 4 males in full voice, one bird putting on quite a show as he sat up on the top of his favoured Genista bush, showing off his mottled grey underparts and white throat sides.

Heading back down hill, we began to find more and more orchids, and by the end of the day we had notched up an impressive 22 different orchids. New for us today were the lovely little Cyprus Four-spotted Orchid *Orchis x sezikiana* (now considered to be a 'stable hybrid swarm' between *Orchis anatolica* and *Orchis quadripunctata*, the true Four-spotted Orchid which doesn't actually occur on the island); the pale-margined *Ophrys sphegodes ssp mammosa var transhyrcana* (what we would

once have called *Ophrys alasiatica*); some lovely fresh spikes of *Ophrys umbilicata* ssp *lapethica* with their narrow 'waists'; and *Ophrys omegaifera* ssp *israelitica*, with the pale W on the lip.

Apart from the Cyprus Warblers up on the ridge, it was a very quiet day birdwise, and the cloudy conditions kept the butterflies off the wing as well, but the flowers more than made up for them.

Day Eight: 30th March. Departure

One last breakfast on the terrace in the sun, overlooking the calm waters of Chrysochou Bay, a wander up the hillside during the morning, and then it was time to bid farewell to Aphrodite Beach, and make our various ways back to Paphos, at the end of a lovely week.

Philip Precey, Wildlife Travel. March 2022



Above (left to right): Rüppell's Warbler, Sardinian Warbler, Cyprus Warbler

FERNS	
Ophioglossaceae (Adder's-tongue Family)	
<i>Ophioglossum lusitanicum</i>	Small Adder's Tongue , tiny fern in the mossy ground, with <i>Ranunculus bulbatus</i> , Pegeia Forest & Smygies
Pteridaceae	
<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair Fern , growing on the damp rock face, behind Aphrodite's pool & the spring at Smygies
Selaginellaceae (Spikemoss Family)	
<i>Selaginella denticulata</i>	Mediterranean Clubmoss , on damp bank in 'orchid valley'
CONIFERS	
Cupressaceae (Cypress Family)	
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	Mediterranean Cypress , 'pencil' cypress, planted at roadsides
<i>Juniperus turbinata</i>	Formerly <i>J. phoenicea</i> , eg Baths of Aphrodite, Pegeia Forest
Ephedraceae (Joint Pine Family)	
<i>Ephedra foemina</i>	Jointed Pine , Baths of Aphrodite
Pinaceae (Pine Family)	
<i>Pinus brutia</i>	Turkish Pine , native pines, eg Pegeia Forest
<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Stone Pine , planted along roadsides, eg Latchi
DICOTYLEDONS	
Amaranthaceae (Amaranth Family)	
<i>Bosea cypria</i>	Endemic privet-like shrub, at Baths of Aphrodite & Smygies
Anacardiaceae (Sumac Family)	
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastic Tree evergreen bush: terminal leaflets in pairs
<i>Pistacia terebinthus</i>	Turpentine Tree deciduous tree: single terminal leaflet
Apiaceae (Carrot Family)	
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	Rock Samphire , on the beach at Mandria and Paphos
<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Sea Holly , on the beach at Mandria
<i>Daucus carota ssp maximus</i>	Wild Carrot , the large, loose-umbelled form growing in arable fields on hillsides above the hotel
<i>Ferula communis</i>	Giant Fennel , common along roadsides
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's Needle , common field edge weed
<i>Smyrniolus olusatrum</i>	Alexanders , common roadside weed, eg Baths of Aphrodite
Apocynaceae (Milkweed Family)	
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander , planted roadside shrub
Asteraceae (Daisy Family)	
<i>Anthemis rigida</i>	small yellow rayless daisy at top of beach, Mandria & Paphos
<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>	Spiny Pallenis , spiny bracts, 27th
<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Field Marigold , field edge weed
<i>Crocodylion creticum</i>	Formerly <i>Centaurea aegialophila</i> , sandy habitats at Tombs of the Kings & Mandria beach
<i>Geropogon hybridus</i>	The smaller purple 'goats beard'
<i>Glebionis coronarium</i>	Crown Daisy , field edge weed
<i>Helichrysum conglobatum</i>	eg Tombs of the Kings
<i>Phagnalon rupestre</i>	eg Tombs of the Kings

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<i>Rhagadiolus stellatus</i>	Field edge weed, 27 th
<i>Tragopogon sinuatus</i>	Goat's Beard , 26 th
Boraginaceae (Borage Family)	
<i>Anchusa aegyptiaca</i>	Eastern Alkanet , pale yellow flowers, weedy plant: 26 th
<i>Buglossoides arvensis</i>	Corn Gromwell , arable weed, 27 th
<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	Cretan Hound's-tongue , pale blue flowers, 27 th
<i>Echium angustifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved Bugloss , carmine flowers, 28 th
<i>Lithodora hispidula</i>	pink and white flowers: shrubby plant phrygana vegetation
Brassicaceae (Cabbage Family)	
<i>Alyssum akamasicum</i>	Endemic to Serpenteinite outcrops on Akamas peninsula. Smygies
<i>Biscutella didyma</i>	Little yellow weedy cabbage
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sea Rocket , Mandria & Paphos beaches
<i>Matthiola tricuspidata</i>	Three-horned Stock , purple flowers, on the beach @ Mandria
Campanulaceae (Bellflower Family)	
<i>Legousia hybrida</i>	Venus's Looking Glass , 27 th
Cactaceae	
<i>Opuntia dillenii</i>	Dark purple fruits, a garden cactus
<i>Opuntia maxima</i>	Prickly Pear
<i>Australopuntia cylindrica</i>	Tubular cactus, below the Taverna in Neo Chorio
Caryophyllaceae (Pink Family)	
<i>Kohlrauschia velutina</i>	Childling Pink , Smygies
<i>Paronychia argentea</i>	Tombs of the Kings
<i>Silene behen</i>	Pegeia Forest
Cistaceae (Rock-rose Family)	
<i>Cistus creticus</i>	Pegeia Forest & Smygies
<i>Cistus ladanifer</i>	Planted: botanic gardens
<i>Cistus monspeliensis</i>	Pegeia Forest
<i>Cistus parviflorus</i>	Smygies
<i>Cistus salviifolius</i>	Planted: botanic gardens
<i>Fumana arabica</i>	Large yellow rock-rose, Tombs of the Kings
<i>Fumana thymifolia</i>	Small yellow rock-rose. Pegeia Forest
<i>Tuberaria guttata</i>	Smygies
Convolvulaceae (Bindweed Family)	
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Bindweed , large pink flowers, Paphos beach
<i>Convolvulus siculus</i>	Small purple & white flowers. Roadside near hotel
Crassulaceae (Stonecrop Family)	
<i>Crassula alata</i>	Tombs of the Kings
<i>Sedum microcarpum</i>	was <i>Telmisa microcarpa</i> . Red-stemmed succulent, vernal rock pools
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort , Baths of Aphrodite
Ericaceae (Heather Family)	
<i>Arbutus andrachne</i>	Eastern Strawberry Tree , Smygies

Euphorbiaceae (Spurge Family)	
<i>Euphorbia dimorphocaulon</i>	Creeping, dark green round leaves
<i>Euphorbia exigua</i>	Dwarf Spurge
<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	Sun Spurge , common field weed
<i>Euphorbia peplus</i>	Petty Spurge , common field weed
<i>Mercurialis annua</i>	Annual Mercury , common field and roadside weed
Fabaceae (Pea Family)	
<i>Calycotome villosa</i>	Yellow flowered 'gorse'
<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	Carob
<i>Genista sphacelata</i>	Thorny 'gorse' without any flowers yet
<i>Hymenocarpus circinnatus</i>	Small orangey flowers, simple leaves
<i>Lathyrus aphaca</i>	Creamy yellow flowers, large stipules, no leaves.
<i>Lathyrus blepharicarpos</i>	Red flowers
<i>Lathyrus gorgonei</i>	Peachy-orange flowers
<i>Lathyrus ochrus</i>	Edible leaves
<i>Lotus edulis</i>	Weedy birds foot trefoil
<i>Lotus halophilus</i>	Coastal birds foot trefoil
<i>Medicago marina</i>	Eg Tombs of the Kings
<i>Medicago scutellata</i>	24 th
<i>Onobrychis caput-galli</i>	Pinky flower, 'cocks comb' seed pod
<i>Ononis biflora</i>	Pale creamy flowers
<i>Ononis viscosa</i>	Smelly, sticky 24 th
<i>Ornithopus compressus</i>	24 th
<i>Physanthyllis tetraphylla</i>	Yellow and white 'fried egg' flowers, inflated calyx
<i>Tetragonolobus purpureus</i>	Asparagus Pea
<i>Trifolium clypeatum</i>	Shield Clover
<i>Trifolium pilulare</i>	Agia Varvara
<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>	Star Clover , Pegeia Forest
<i>Trifolium tomentosum</i>	Woolly Clover , Eg Baths of Aphrodite: Pegeia Forest
<i>Vicia hybrida</i>	Hairy Yellow-vetch , Pale yellow flowers
<i>Vicia peregrina</i>	Pegeia: lilac flowers
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common Vetch , 24 th
Fagaceae (Beech Family)	
<i>Quercus coccifera calliprinos</i>	Kermes Oak shrubby, holly-leaved oak: Pegeia Forest and Neo Chorio
<i>Quercus infectoria veneris</i>	Deciduous or Royal Oak The 'tree' oak, with a particularly impressive individual at the Magic Oak cafe
Geraniaceae (Geranium Family)	
<i>Erodium gruinum</i>	Long-beaked Stork's-bill Big lilac flower
<i>Erodium malacoides</i>	Soft Stork's-bill In car park
<i>Erodium moschatum</i>	Musk Stork's-bill Common roadside weed
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill Eg Pegeia Forest
<i>Geranium tuberosum</i>	Tuberous Crane's-bill Smygies

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Lamiaceae (Mint Family)	
<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	Henbit , roadside weed
<i>Micromeria nervosa</i>	Baths of Aphrodite
<i>Prasium majus</i>	Twin white flowers: scrambling shrub
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	Wild Clary , Baths of Aphrodite
<i>Thymus integer</i>	Endemic to Serpenteinite outcrops: Smygies
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Chaste Bush , roadside shrub
Meliaceae (Mahogany Family)	
<i>Melia azedarah</i>	Persian Lilac , Paphos headland: planted
Myrtaceae (Myrtle Family)	
<i>Myrtus communis</i>	Myrtle , roadsides towards Latchi
Oleaceae (Olive Family)	
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive
Orobanchaceae (Broomrape Family)	
<i>Bellardia trixago</i>	Neo Chorio, 29th
<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	Southern Red Bartsia , common everywhere
Oxalidaceae (Wood Sorrel Family)	
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda Buttercup , invasive weed, everywhere
Papaveraceae (Poppy Family)	
<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	Yellow Horned Poppy , Mandria and Paphos beaches
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Corn Poppy
Plantaginaceae (Plantain Family)	
<i>Limosella aquatica</i>	Mudwort , vernal pools in Pegeia Forest
<i>Linaria chalepensis</i>	Arable weed: white toadflax leaves
<i>Misopates orontium</i>	Weasel Snout , arable weed: pink snap dragon flowers
<i>Plantago afra</i>	Branched Plantain
<i>Plantago lagopus</i>	Hare's-tail Plantain
<i>Plantago lanceolata var bakeri</i>	Ribwort Plantain
<i>Veronica cymbalaria</i>	Pale Speedwell , eg Neo Chorio
Plumbaginaceae (Leadwort Family)	
<i>Limonium sinuatum</i>	Sea Lavender , Mandria and Paphos beaches
Polygonaceae (Buckwheat Family)	
<i>Emex spinosa</i>	Spiny-fruited 'dock', Tombs of the Kings
Primulaceae (Primrose Family)	
<i>Anagallis arvensis foemina</i>	Blue Pimpernel , common field weed
<i>Cyclamen persicum</i>	Persian Cyclamen eg Baths of Aphrodite
<i>Samolus valerandi</i>	Brookweed Baths of Aphrodite & Smygies
Ranunculaceae (Buttercup Family)	
<i>Anemone coronaria</i>	Crown Anemone , lilac flowers, tepals
<i>Ranunculus asiaticus</i>	Turban Buttercup , Mostly yellowish flowers, sepals/petals
<i>Ranunculus cytheraeus</i>	was <i>R. bullatus</i> , autumn flowering buttercup: rosettes flat to the group in shallow soils, eg Pegeia Forest
<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	Lesser Celandine 26th
<i>Ranunculus peltatus</i>	Pond Water Crowfoot , vernal rock pools

Rosaceae (Rose Family)	
<i>Crataegus azarolus</i>	Mediterranean Hawthorn. Smygies
<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Loquat, eg hotel gardens
<i>Prunus dulcis</i>	Almond Common throughout: pink flowers
<i>Pyrus communis</i>	Wild Pear Smygies
<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	Thorny Burnet Phrygana
Rubiaceae (Madder Family)	
<i>Rubia tenuifolia</i>	Narrow-leaved Madder, scrambling through shrubs
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Field Madder, common field weed
<i>Theligonum cynocrambe</i>	Dogs Cabbage, common on bare rocks, eg Baths of Aphrodite
Scrophulariaceae (Figwort Family)	
<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	Wavy-leaved Mullein, rosettes at Paphos headland
Solanaceae (Nightshade Family)	
<i>Mandragora officinarum</i>	Mandrake, sandy coastal areas, eg Tombs of the Kings
<i>Hyoscyamus albus</i>	White Henbane, Paphos beach
Styracaceae (Storax Family)	
<i>Styrax officinalis</i>	Baths of Aphrodite
Tamaricaceae (Tamarisk Family)	
<i>Tamarix tetragyna</i>	Roadside near hotel

MONOCOTYLEDONS	
Amaryllidaceae (Amaryllis Family)	
<i>Allium neapolitanum</i>	Naples Garlic, common field weed
Araceae (Arum Family)	
<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	Friar's Cowl
Asparagaceae (Asparagus Family)	
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	Wild Asparagus
<i>Bellevalia nivalis</i>	Snowy Bellavalia
<i>Bellevalia trifoliata</i>	Three-leaved Bellavalia
<i>Muscari neglectum</i>	In fields near Polemi
<i>Ornithogalum pedicellare</i>	eg Pegeia Forest
Asphodelaceae (Asphodel Family)	
<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	Hollow-stemmed Asphodel
<i>Asphodelus ramosus</i>	Branched Asphodel
Iridaceae (Iris Family)	
<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Field Gladiolus, common field weed
<i>Moraea sisyrinchium</i>	Barbary Nut, very common lilac iris, opening in afternoon
<i>Romulea ramiflora</i>	Pegeia Forest
Liliaceae (Lily Family)	
<i>Gagea graeca</i>	White flowers, Pegeia Forest
<i>Gagea peduncularis</i>	Yellow flowers, eg Baths of Aphrodite
<i>Tulipa agenensis</i>	Fields near Polemi: not yet in flower
Smilacaceae (Greenbriar Family)	
<i>Smilax aspera</i>	Common vine

Orchidaceae (Orchid Family)	
<i>Anacamptis collina</i>	Fan-lipped Orchid , finished spikes, around Neo Chorio
<i>Anacamptis morio</i> ssp <i>syriaca</i>	Eastern Green-winged Orchid , common amongst pine trees, eg Pegeia Forest, Neo Chorio, Smygies
<i>Dactylorhiza romana</i>	Roman Orchid , yellow spikes, Smygies
<i>Himantoglossum</i> <i>robertianum</i>	Giant Orchid , Neo Chorio, just going over
<i>Neotinea maculata</i>	Dense-flowered Orchid , Smygies
<i>Ophrys argolica</i> ssp <i>elegans</i>	= <i>Ophrys elegans</i> , shiny 'goggles', swept back 'wings'. Common amongst pine trees, eg Pegeia & Smygies
<i>Ophrys sphegodes</i> ssp <i>mammosa</i>	Early Spider Orchid = <i>Ophrys morio</i> . Pegeia, Latchi/Neo Chorio
<i>Ophrys sphegodes</i> ssp <i>mammosa</i> var <i>transhyrcana</i>	= <i>Ophrys alasiatica</i> . Pale margin to lip, Smygies
<i>O. umbilicata</i> ssp. <i>umbilicata</i>	Eastern Woodcock Orchid Both forms with pink sepals (= <i>O. attica</i>) and green sepals (= <i>O. astarte</i>) around Latchi/Neo Chorio
<i>O. umbilicata</i> ssp. <i>flavomarginata</i>	= <i>O. flavomarginata</i> , common around Latchi/Neo Chorio, just going over
<i>O. umbilicata</i> ssp <i>lapethica</i>	= <i>O. lapethica</i> , fresh spikes with narrow 'waist', Smygies
<i>Ophrys fuciflora</i> ssp. <i>bornmuelleri</i>	= <i>O. aphrodite</i> , Pegeia & Smygies
<i>Ophrys fuciflora</i> subsp. <i>grandiflora</i>	= <i>O. levantina</i> , Pegeia & Smygies
<i>Ophrys fusca</i> subsp. <i>cinereophila</i>	Sombre Bee Orchid , eg Pegeia & Smygies
<i>Ophrys omegaifera</i> subsp. <i>israelitica</i>	= <i>Ophrys israelitica</i> , large 'fusca'-type but with U-shaped 'throat' and pale W marking. Smygies
<i>Ophrys lutea</i> ssp <i>galilaea</i>	= <i>Ophrys sicula</i> , Yellow Bee Orchid . common in Phrygana
<i>Orchis anatolica</i>	= <i>Orchis troodii</i> Anatolian Orchid , Smygies
<i>Orchis italica</i>	Naked Man Orchid , Neo Chorio
<i>Orchis punctulata</i>	Punctulate Orchid , big yellow spikes, Neo Chorio
<i>Orchis x sezikiana</i>	'Cyprus Four-spotted Orchid', a stable hybrid population between <i>O anatolica</i> and <i>O quadripunctata</i> . Tiny white flowers, Smygies
<i>Serapias vomeracea</i> ssp <i>laxiflora</i>	= <i>Serapias bergonii</i> , eg Pegeia Forest, including the fine stemmed ' <i>Serapias aphrodite</i> ' form
<i>Serapias orientalis</i>	Fields towards Neo Chorio



Above (clockwise, from top left): *Orchis punctulata*, *Orchis anatolica*, *Ophrys lutea* ssp *galilaea*, *Ophrys fuciflora* ssp *bornmuelleri*

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ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	23 rd	24 th	25 th	26 th	27 th	28 th	29 th	30 th
Family Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants)									
Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>		X	X	X	X	X		X
Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>						X		
Family Ardeidae (Hérons)									
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>						X		
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	X							
Family Accipitridae (Hawks and Eagles)									
Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Hieraetus fasciatus</i>					X			
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		X		X				
Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>			X	X	X			
Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>					X	X		
Family Falconidae (Falcons)									
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		X		X	X	X	X	
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>						X		
Family Phasianidae (Pheasants and Partridges)									
Black Francolin	<i>Francolinus francolinus</i>					X	H		
Chukar	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>					X		X	
Family Rallidae (Rails and Crakes)									
Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>						X		
Little Crake	<i>Zapornia parva</i>						X		
Family Recurvirostridae (Avocets and Stilts)									
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>						X		
Family Burhinidae (Stone curlews)									
Stone Curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicnemus</i>				X				
Family Charadriidae (Plovers)									
Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>						X		
Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers)									
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>						X		
Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>						X		
Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>						X		
Family Laridae (Gulls)									
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Baltic Gull	<i>Larus fuscus fuscus</i>				X		X		
Family Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)									
Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Laughing Dove		X				X	X	X	
Family Apodidae (Swifts)									
Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>						X		
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>			X					

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Family Upupidae (Hoopes)									
Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>		X		X		X		
Family Alaudidae (Larks)									
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>				X	X	X		
Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>						X		
Family Hirundinidae (Swallows and Martins)									
House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	X	X	X	X	X			
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Family Motacillidae (Pipits and Wagtails)									
Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>						X		
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	X			X		X		
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>		X		X	X			
Red-throated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>						X		
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Blue-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla (flava) flava</i>				X		X		
Black-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla (flava) feldegg</i>				X		X		
Grey-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla (flava) thunbergi</i>				X		X		
Family Muscicapidae (Flycatchers)									
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	X	X			X		X	
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>				X	X	X	X	
Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	X	X		X	X	X		
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>				X		X		
Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>						X		
Eastern Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe melanoleuca</i>				X				
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>				X				
Family Turdidae (Thrushes)									
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>					X		X	
Family Sylviidae (Scrub Warblers)									
Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca</i>						X	X	
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Cyprus Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanothorax</i>							X	
Ruppell's Warbler	<i>Sylvia rueppelli</i>				X				
Family Cisticolidae (Cisticolas)									
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	X			X	X	X		
Family Cettiidae (Cettiid Warblers)									
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	X	X			X	X	X	
Family Phylloscopidae (Leaf Warblers)									
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Family Paridae (Tits)									
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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Family Corvidae (Crows)									
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>		X						
Family Sturnidae (Starlings)									
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>				X				
Family Passeridae (Sparrows)									
Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispanicus</i>				X		X		
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Family Fringillidae (Finches)									
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>		X	X	X	X	X		
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	X		X		X		X	
Family Emberizidae (Buntings)									
Cretzschmar's Bunting	<i>Emberiza caesia</i>				X				
Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>		X		X		X		

AMPHIBIANS									
E Cyprus Green Toad	<i>Bufo (viridis) cypriensis</i>						H		
Savigny's Tree Frog	<i>Hyla savignyi</i>			H	H	H			
E Cyprus Marsh Frog	<i>Pelophylax cypriensis</i>						H		
REPTILES									
Starred Agama	<i>Laudakia stellio</i>			X	X				
Eastern Bent-toed Gecko	<i>Mediodactylus orientalis</i>			X					
Snake-eyed Lacertid	<i>Ophisops elegans</i>		X	X		X			
Schreiber's Spiny-footed Lizard	<i>Acanthodactylus schreiberi</i>						X		
E Troodos Wall Lizard	<i>Lacerta troodica</i>		X	X		X			
Bridled Skink	<i>Heremites vittata</i>			X		X			
Budak's Snake-eyed Skink	<i>Ablepharus budaki</i>			X		X			
MAMMALS									
Cyprus Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus cyprius</i>	Two at Mandria beach							
Kuhl's Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus kuhlii</i>	In the hotel grounds							

ENGLISH NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	23 rd	24 th	25 th	26 th	27 th	28 th	29 th	30 th
BUTTERFLIES									
Family Papilionidae (Swallowtails)									
Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon syriacus</i>		X	X		X	X		
Eastern Festoon	<i>Zerinthia cerisyi</i>					X			
Family Pieridae (Whites)									
Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		X	X	X	X	X		
Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>					X	X		
Orange Tip	<i>Anthocaris cardamines</i>		X	X	X	X			
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>						X		
Cleopatra	<i>Gonopteryx cleopatra taurica</i>		X			X			
Family Lycaenidae (Blues, Coppers and Hairstreaks)									
Paphos Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche paphos</i>					X	X		
Family Nymphalidae (Admirals and Fritillaries)									
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>			X			X		
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>							X	



Above: Eastern Festoon and Troodos Wall Lizard



Above (clockwise, from top left): *Gladiolus italicus*, *Cyclamen persicum*, *Dactylorhiza romana*, *Anemone coronaria*