

# WILDLIFE TRAVEL

Crete 2012



## Crete species lists and trip report, 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012

#	DATE	LOCATIONS & NOTES
1	17 <sup>th</sup> April	London to Chania. Agia Reservoir, then to Plakias Bay Hotel
2	18 <sup>th</sup> April	lanes around Plakias
3	19 <sup>th</sup> April	Spili 'bumps'
4	20 <sup>th</sup> April	Preveli Monastery and Kourtaliotiko Gorge
5	21 <sup>st</sup> April	Mirthios
6	22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Festos and Agia Triada
7	23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Frangokastello Castle and Imbrou Gorge
8	24 <sup>th</sup> April	Return to UK

### **LIST OF TRAVELLERS**

#### **Leaders**

Philip Precey: Wildlife Travel

Yiannis Christofides: Cyprus

A gallery of some of Philip's photos from the holiday can be seen on Wildlife Travel's Flickr site, at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/wildlifetravel/sets/72157629503611254/>

## Crete species lists and trip report, 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012

**17<sup>th</sup> April. Arrival and Agia Reservoir.** An (extremely) early start and an uneventful flight over a cloud-cloaked Europe saw us arrive at Chania Airport just after midday local time. Bags gathered, we boarded our coach and headed west to Agia Reservoir, with a short stop on the way to gather provisions.

From the patio of a handily-located restaurant, we ate our lunches while checking the birds around the small reservoir. Coot, Moorhen and Little Grebe predominated, but we did start to pick out some more interesting species: a couple of Squacco Herons and a Little Egret hunted the edges, a male Ferruginous Duck hid at the back, 3 Alpine Swifts zoomed overhead and single Glossy Ibis and Black-winged Stilt were found, but the best were 3 or 4 Little Crakes picking their way over the floating mats of algae.

From here, it was a 2 hour drive across an increasingly windy island to our hotel at Plakias.

**18<sup>th</sup> April. Plakias.** Overnight the wind had picked up, and by breakfast the bay was full of white horses and a sand storm was blowing across the coast road. The howling gale put paid to any plans of walking around the headland: storm force winds and cliff-top paths don't generally go well together. So instead we ambled about the lanes and fields immediately around the hotel and behind Plakias.

Our first introduction to the flora of Crete was a good one (despite the wind!) and included plenty of interest, including some nice endemics: the lovely yellow and blue hyacinth *Muscari spreitzenhoferi* on a sandy patch of hillside; the impressive blue *Petromarula pinnata*, a member of the Campanulaceae growing on vegetated rocky slopes behind the village; the white skullcap *Scutellaria sieberi*. We also found our first orchids in the form of two species of Tongue Orchids, *Serapias bergonii* with larger, darker flower spikes and *Serapias parviflora* a small-flowered species that nearly always self-fertilises, as well as several spikes of the dark bee orchid *Ophrys gortynia*.

Coming back into the village through an area of old olive groves, after a couple of heavy rain showers had passed through, Bill suddenly said 'Bee-eater in the tree!', and there in a dead tree just next to the path a few metres in front of us was the obvious silhouette of a bee-eater, against the (finally!) blue sky. "He must be resting out of the wind", says I, raising my binoculars... but instead of being greeted by the crazy rainbow of a European Bee-eater, we found ourselves looking at an almost all green bird, with sleek black mask, orange and yellow throat and beautiful sky-blue eyebrow and cheeks. An adult Blue-cheeked Bee-eater, a bird certainly not on the radar for this week! With only around 40 previous records for Greece, a VERY nice start to our trip!

**19<sup>th</sup> April. Spili 'Bumps'.** Low grey clouds hanging over the hilltops, so low that the occasional soaring Griffon Vulture would disappear in and out of them – not the perfect weather for a day of botanising... but at least the clouds stayed up there and didn't empty onto us, and the wind had abated a fair bit.

And so to Spili, one of those classic wildflower destinations: every natural history group that comes to western Crete spends some time tramping the famous "bumps", and we were of course no exception. 6 hours and 21 orchid species later, including two Cretan endemics, we returned to Plakias, tired but content!

There is more to Spili than just the orchids of course, and we enjoyed the fields full of *Tulipa doerfleri*, the single beautiful *Iris cretensis*, a small patch of *Cyclamen creticum* (all, of course, endemics) and several bushes of the lovely scented *Daphne sericea*. Griffon Vultures drifted overhead most of the day, along with singing Corn Buntings and Wood Lark in the afternoon.

**20<sup>th</sup> April. Preveli Monastery and Kourtaliotiko Gorge.** A sunny day! From the atmospheric Preveli Monastery, with its interesting double-fronted iconostasis and history of warrior monks, we spent the day ambling back along the road.

The soundtrack to our morning was made up of the buzzing song of Eastern Black-eared Wheatear, the Yellowhammer-lite of Cretschmar's Bunting, the Kestrel-like keekeekee of Alpine Swifts and the lovely sound of a Mediterranean summer coming from a group of about 30 Bee-eaters (just the European norm,

## Crete species lists and trip report, 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012

this time!) gathered in the valley. A pair of Southern Skimmers, the male a lovely powder blue, were hanging around a damp roadside ditch, while two species of shieldbug were sat side by side, the black and red striped *Graphosoma lineatum* next to the orangey Cretan endemic *Graphosoma creticum*.

For the botanists, the highlight was simply the profusion of flowers: road verges and hillsides were covered in flowers, with something interesting at almost every step: tall yellow spikes of *Verbascum macrurum*; the small flowered *Malva cretica*; the squat, purple *Centaurea raphanina* and the nearby 'caged flower' of *Atractylis cancellata*; and a single elegant spike of *Anacamptis papilionacea* ssp *alibertis*, yet another Cretan endemic (as if we needed more!).

After an ice cream at the riverside café, with a male Pied Flycatcher flitting in the trees and both Emperor and Vagrant Emperor dragonflies hawking the banks, we were shuttled up to the gorge. Some of us took the steps down to the chapel and waterfall at the bottom, enjoying *Ricotia cretica*, *Cyclamen creticum* and *Procopiana cretica* along the way, while others stayed at road level and had a fly past Lammergeier with the Griffons. A couple of Chough flew around the gorge and a male Blue Rock Thrush sang overhead.

**21<sup>st</sup> April. Mirthios.** A day of blue skies and sunshine, as we made our way slowly up the hill to the village of Mirthios and then (after a delicious taverna lunch) a somewhat speedier walk down again.

Along the way we enjoyed a migrating Honey Buzzard being chased by a Common Buzzard, plenty of butterflies including our first Swallowtails, three handsome leopard-spotted Cretan Frogs sunning themselves around a drinking trough, a patch of the lovely little lobelia-like *Solenopsis annua* and several bushes of Cretan Ebony *Ebenus creticus*.

**22<sup>nd</sup> April. Festos and Agia Triada.** Today we boarded our coach and headed east for the Minoan sites of Festos and Agia Triada. While most attention was on the historical nature of the sites, there was plenty of wildlife to keep us entertained at the same time, with both Spotted and Pied Flycatchers fly-catching from the pine trees, a Wood Warbler flitting through, a sunbathing Ocellated Skink amongst the rocks and a fly-past from a Hoopoe.

Walking the lane between the two sites, we enjoyed hillsides of *Ebenus creticus*, the smaller-leaved endemic *Phlomis lanata* and some nice stands of *Serapias cordigera*. Plenty of Sardinian Warblers sang from the scrub, as well as a couple of shy Eastern Subalpine Warblers and a noisy (but unseen) Great Reed Warbler. And back to Plakias for yet another delicious Cretan meal.

**23<sup>rd</sup> April. Frangokastello and Imbrou Gorge.** After a spectacular drive along the coast eastwards from our hotel, we arrived at the Venetian castle of Frangokastello. As well as the historical ruins we found plenty of wildlife to interest us too, including the stiff little *Anthemis rigida*, Rough Poppy and White Henbane in the castle itself, and a stream with several Balkan Terrapins down by the beach.

After a refreshment break, we continued east and then up the zigzag roads to the top of the Imbrou Gorge. The rest of the day was spent walking down the gorge (with some taking the more leisurely option of a bus ride down and an afternoon in the taverna!).

The gorge walk gave us the opportunity to enjoy several special 'chasmophytes', amongst them the Tree Flax and Tree Medick and *Brassica cretica* growing alongside the shrubby daisy *Stachelina petiolata*. Butterflies were fairly abundant down here, including Brown Argus and Southern Comma showing well. A pair of Peregrines called noisily above us, while a day-calling Scops Owl gave a brief 'poop poop' further down. Poking around under the bark on a fallen tree revealed a lovely scorpion, as well as a bright red click beetle. While at the bottom of the gorge, the Dragon Arums were in full bloom. Well worth the effort.

**24<sup>th</sup> April. Plakias Bay and home...** All too soon, our week is up! One last breakfast, and then we have to bid farewell to Yiannis and to Aris and Natassa, our wonderful hosts at Plakias Bay, before the bus journey back across the island to Chania and our flights home.

## CRETE 2012: some highlights



Top: Adult Blue-cheeked Bee-eater at Plakias, 18<sup>th</sup> April. (photo by Dick Endecott)  
First row, l to r: Cretan Frog, *Graphosoma creticum*, *Anacamptis papilionacea* ssp *alibertis*  
second row, l to r: *Ophrys ariadnae*, *Iris cretensis* and *Muscari spreitzenhoferi*  
All of course endemic to Crete

## Crete species lists and trip report, 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012

E = endemic species. H = heard only. D = dead

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH NAME	Notes	Seen
<b>FERNS</b>			
<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair Fern		20 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Anogramma leptophylla</i>	Annual Fern		20 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Asplenium ceterach</i>	Rusty-back Fern		20 <sup>th</sup>
<b>CONIFERS</b>			
<b>Cupressaceae</b>			
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>			21 <sup>st</sup>
<b>Pinaceae</b>			
<i>Pinus brutia</i>	Calabrian Pine		22 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>DICOTYLEDONS</b>			
<b>Aceraceae</b>			
<i>Acer sempervirens</i>		The tree in the gorge	23 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Anacardiaceae</b>			
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastic Tree		22 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Apiaceae</b>			
<i>Apium inundatum</i>		on the mud near the chapel	19 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Apium nodiflorum</i>	Fool's Water Cress	in the stream behind Plakias	18 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot		18 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Ferula communis</i>	Giant Fennel		22 <sup>nd</sup>
<i>Lagoecia cuminoides</i>		Lacy pretty, at lunch	20 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i>		In the ditch at Spili	19 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Orlya daucoides</i>		spiky fruits	20 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Scaligeria cretica</i>		growing on rocks	20 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's Needle		18 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Smyrniium rotundifolium</i>			19 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Tordylium apulum</i>		disc fruits	20 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Aristolochiaceae</b>			
<i>Aristolochia sempervirens</i>			21 <sup>st</sup>
<b>Asteraceae</b>			
<i>Anthemis chia</i>		Black margins to bracts: in gorge	23 <sup>rd</sup>
<i>Anthemis rigida</i>		In the castle	23 <sup>rd</sup>
<i>Atractylis cancellata</i>		"cage" knapweed	20 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Centaurea raphanina</i>		low growing knapweed on rocks	20 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Chicory		22 <sup>nd</sup>
<i>Crepis sancta</i>		small yellow composite	20 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Crupina crupinastrum</i>		cerise-coloured on rocky slope	18 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Filago pyramidalis</i>		the small cudweed on sand	18 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Geropogon hybridus</i>		Mini Goat's Beard	21 <sup>st</sup>
<i>Glebionis coronarium</i>	Crown Daisy		18 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Helichrysum barrelieri</i>			19 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Notobasis syriaca</i>		the tall roadside thistle	20 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Onopordum tauricum</i>		the 'donkey fart' thistle	20 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>		yellow, spiny bracts	20 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Phagnalon rupestre ssp graecum</i>		Shaving-brush flower	18 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Picris sp</i>		with hooked hairs	22 <sup>nd</sup>
<i>Ptilostemon chamaepeuce</i>		The knapweed bush	18 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Reichardia picroides</i>		with the swollen seed head	18 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Scorzonera cretica</i>		yellow composite in the gorge	20 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly Sow Thistle		22 <sup>nd</sup>
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Smooth Sow Thistle		22 <sup>nd</sup>
<i>Staelina petiolata</i>		The tree daisy, in gorge	23 <sup>rd</sup>
<i>Tragopodon sinuatus</i>	Goat's Beard		18 <sup>th</sup>

## Crete species lists and trip report, 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012

	SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH NAME	Notes	Seen
<b>Boraginaceae</b>				
	<i>Anchusa azurea</i>	Large Blue Alkanet		18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Anchusella variegata</i>		white & magenta striped flowers	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<i>Cerinthe major</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	Cretan Hound's-tongue	Blue flowers, round fruits	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Echium angustifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved Bugloss	magenta flowers	22 <sup>nd</sup>
	<i>Echium italicum</i>	Pale Bugloss	pale flowers	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>		blue and purple flowers	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Neatostema apulum</i>		Yellow, near the monastery	20 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Onosma erecta</i>		Golden drop	20 <sup>th</sup>
E	<i>Procopiana cretica</i>		In the gorge	20 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Brassicaceae</b>				
	<i>Arabis verna</i>		purple crucifer in the gorge	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<i>Biscutella didyma</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Brassica cretica</i>		in the gorge	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<i>Erucaria hispanica</i>	Spanish Pink Mustard		22 <sup>nd</sup>
	<i>Rapistrum rugosum</i>	Bastard Cabbage		22 <sup>nd</sup>
E	<i>Ricotia cretica</i>		mauve crucifer in the gorge	20 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Campanulaceae</b>				
	<i>Campanula erinus</i>		tiny campanula on sandy field	18 <sup>th</sup>
E	<i>Petromerula pinnata</i>		Rock Lettuce	18 <sup>th</sup>
E	<i>Solenopsis annua</i>		tiny purple 'lobelia'	21 <sup>st</sup>
<b>Caryophyllaceae</b>				
	<i>Silene bellidifolia</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Silene colorata</i>		Small and pinky red	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Silene cretica</i>		Pinky red on the steep hill at Spili	19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Silene dichotoma</i>		White and furry	19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Silene gallica</i>		White and pink	18 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Cistaceae</b>				
	<i>Cistus creticus</i>		Pink flowers	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Cistus salviifolius</i>	Sage-leaved Cistus	White flowers	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Fumana thymifolia</i>			20 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Clusiaceae</b>				
	<i>Hypericum empetrifolium</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Convolvulaceae</b>				
	<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>		Dark centre	22 <sup>nd</sup>
	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	In the castle	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<i>Convolvulus elegantissimus</i>		Pale centre	18 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Crassulaceae</b>				
	<i>Sedum litoreum</i>			20 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Umbilicus parviflorus</i>		In the gorge	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort		19 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Dipsacaceae</b>				
	<i>Knautia integrifolia</i>			19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Lomelosia brachiata</i>		Funny scabious-type flower	20 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Euphorbiaceae</b>				
	<i>Euphorbia acanthophamnos</i>	Greek Spiny Spurge	Chicken wire spurge	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Euphorbia characias</i>			19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	Sea Spurge		21 <sup>st</sup>
	<i>Ricinus communis</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Fabaceae</b>				
	<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Mediterranean Kidney Vetch		19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Aspalathium bituminosa</i>	Pitch Vetch	Smells of tar	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Astragalus boeticus</i>		In the castle	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<i>Calycotome villosa</i>	Spiny Broom	(in flower on 22 <sup>nd</sup> )	18 <sup>th</sup>

## Crete species lists and trip report, 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012

	SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH NAME	Notes	Seen
	<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	Carob		18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Coronilla seguridaca</i>		A crown vetch	18 <sup>th</sup>
E	<i>Ebenus creticus</i>	Cretan Ebony	Pinky red flowered bush	21 <sup>st</sup>
	<i>Hippocrepis biflora</i>		Horseshoe-shaped pods	20 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Lotus ornithopodioides</i>		With long narrow seed pods	22 <sup>nd</sup>
	<i>Medicago arborea</i>		Tree medick, in the gorge	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<i>Medicago coronata</i>			20 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Medicago maritima</i>		On the beach	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Medicago orbicularis</i>		Large disc pods	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Medicago polymorpha</i>		Spiny spiral pods	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Ononis pubescens</i>		Big yellow flowers	22 <sup>nd</sup>
	<i>Ononis reclinata</i>			20 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Ononis viscosa</i>		Small yellow flowers	22 <sup>nd</sup>
	<i>Scorpiurus muricatus</i>			21 <sup>st</sup>
	<i>Tetragonolobus purpureus</i>	Asparagus Pea		21 <sup>st</sup>
	<i>Trifolium angustifolium</i>		Tall, pink flowers	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Trifolium boissieri</i>		Brown and yellow 'flowers'	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Trifolium campestre</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Trifolium grandiflorum</i>		Big pinky flowers in the gorge	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<i>Trifolium resurbinatum</i>		Small pink flowers	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>	Star Clover		19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Trifolium uniflorum</i>		Single white flowers	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Vicia bithynica</i>		Lilac and white flowers	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Vicia cretica</i>		Tiny creeping, purple flowers	20 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Vicia hybrida</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Vicia lutea</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Vicia sativa</i>		Purple flowers	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Vicia villosa</i>		Bunches of purple flowers	21 <sup>st</sup>
<b>Fagaceae</b>				
	<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	Kermes Oak	In the gorge	23 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Lamiaceae</b>				
	<i>Ballota pseudodictamnus</i>		round downy leaves in the gorge	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	White Horehound	In the castle	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<i>Micromeria nervosa</i>		common pink flowers	20 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Phlomis cretica</i>		short shrub, near Prevelli	20 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>		the common Jerusalem sage	18 <sup>th</sup>
E	<i>Phlomis lanata</i>		small round leaves	22 <sup>nd</sup>
	<i>Prasium majus</i>			20 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Salvia triloba</i>		large pale-flowered sage	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Salvia viridis</i>		tiny annual sage	20 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Satureja thymbra</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
E	<i>Scutellaria sieberi</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Sideritis curvidens</i>		annual, white flowers	20 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Stachys cretica</i>		downy	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Corydothymus capitatus</i>		bushy thyme	18 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Linaceae</b>				
	<i>Linum strictum</i>	Upright Yellow Flax	Yellow	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Linum arboreum</i>	Tree Flax	In the gorge	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<i>Linum bienne</i>	Pale Flax	Pale blue	18 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Lythraceae</b>				
	<i>Lythrum junceum</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Malvaceae</b>				
	<i>Lavatera cretica</i>	Small-flowered Tree Mallow		21 <sup>st</sup>
	<i>Malva cretica</i>		Very small, pink flowers	20 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow		20 <sup>th</sup>



## Crete species lists and trip report, 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012

	SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH NAME	Notes	Seen
	<b>Myrtaceae</b>			
	<i>Myrtus communis</i>	Myrtle		18 <sup>th</sup>
	<b>Oleaceae</b>			
	<i>Olea europea</i>	Wild Olive		21 <sup>st</sup>
	<b>Orobanchaceae</b>			
	<i>Orobanche ramosa</i>	Branched Broomrape	Purple	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<b>Oxalidaceae</b>			
	<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda Buttercup	Very common weed	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<b>Papaveraceae</b>			
	<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	Yellow Horned Poppy		18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Papaver hybridum</i>	Rough Poppy	In Frangkocastello	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<i>Papaver purpleomarginatum</i>		In the gorge	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Corn Poppy	Blood red	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<b>Plantaginaceae</b>			
	<i>Plantago afra</i>	Branched Plantain		18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Plantago coronopus</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Plantago cretica</i>			20 <sup>th</sup>
	<b>Platanaceae</b>			
	<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	Eastern Plane	Big tree	20 <sup>th</sup>
	<b>Primulaceae</b>			
	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel		19 <sup>th</sup>
E	<i>Cyclamen creticum</i>	Cretan Cyclamen		19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Samolus valerandi</i>	Brookweed		20 <sup>th</sup>
	<b>Ranunculaceae</b>			
	<i>Ranunculus asiaticus</i>	Turban Buttercup		18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Anemone hortensis</i>			19 <sup>th</sup>
	<b>Rosaceae</b>			
	<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	Thorny Burnet	A chicken-wire plant	18th
	<b>Rutaceae</b>			
	<i>Ruta chalepensis</i>	Fringed Rue		23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<b>Saxifragaceae</b>			
	<i>Saxifraga chrysosplenifolia</i>		in the gorge	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<b>Santalaceae</b>			
	<i>Osyris alba</i>			18th
	<b>Scrophulariaceae</b>			
	<i>Bellardia trixago</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Linaria micrantha</i>		tiny, Festos	22 <sup>nd</sup>
	<i>Misopates orontium</i>	Weasel's Snout		22 <sup>nd</sup>
	<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	Southern Red Bartsia		19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	Yellow Bartsia		18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Scrophularia lucida</i>		Figwort along verges, cut leaves	21 <sup>st</sup>
	<i>Scrophularia peregrina</i>		Annual figwort	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<i>Verbascum arcturus</i>		on the gorge cliffs	22 <sup>nd</sup>
	<i>Verbascum macrurum</i>		big mullein on hillsides	20 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>		not in flower yet	22 <sup>nd</sup>
	<i>Veronica anagallis-aquatica</i>	Blue Water-speedwell	In the stream behind Plakias	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<b>Solanaceae</b>			
	<i>Hyoscyamus albus</i>	White Henbane	in the castle	23 <sup>rd</sup>
	<b>Thymelaceae</b>			
	<i>Thymelea hirsuta</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Daphne sericea</i>			19 <sup>th</sup>
	<b>Valerianaceae</b>			
	<i>Centranthus calytrapa</i>	Annual Valerian	Small pink valerian on rocks	20 <sup>th</sup>
E	<i>Valeriana asarifolia</i>	Cretan Valerian	Big round leaves, near stream	19 <sup>th</sup>

## Crete species lists and trip report, 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012

	SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH NAME	Notes	Seen
<b>MONOCOTYLEDONS</b>				
<b>Alliaceae</b>				
	<i>Allium subhirsutum</i>		small delicated Allium	22 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Amaryllidaceae</b>				
	<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	Sea Daffodil	Leaves all over the dunes	21 <sup>st</sup>
<b>Araceae</b>				
	<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	Friar's Cowl		19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Arum concinatum</i>		purplish, in the olive groves	21 <sup>st</sup>
	<i>Arum italicum</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Dracunculus vulgaris</i>	Dragon Arum		18 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Asparagaceae</b>				
	<i>Drimia (Urginea) maritima</i>	Sea Squill		18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel Hyacinth		18 <sup>th</sup>
E	<i>Muscari spreitzenhoferi</i>		yellow at bottom, blue at top	18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Ornithogallum narbonense</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Iridaceae</b>				
	<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Field Gladiolus		18 <sup>th</sup>
E	<i>Iris cretensis</i>	Cretan Iris		19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Gynandiris sisyriuchium</i>	Barbary Nut		18 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Liliaceae</b>				
	<i>Gagea graeca</i>		the white 'lily'	19 <sup>th</sup>
E	<i>Tulipa doerfleri</i>			19 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Palmaceae</b>				
E	<i>Phoenix theophrasti</i>	Cretan Palm		20 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Xanthorroaceae</b>				
	<i>Asphodelus ramosus</i>	Common Asphodel		19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Asphodeline lutea</i>	Yellow Asphodel		19 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Orchidaceae</b>				
	<i>Anacamptis boryi</i>	= Orchis		19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Anacamptis fragrans</i>	= Orchis coriophora ssp fragrans		21 <sup>st</sup>
	<i>Anacamptis laxiflora</i>	= Orchis		19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Anacamptis papilionacea ssp alibertis</i>	= Orchis		20 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Orchid		19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Himantoglossum robertianum</i>	= Barlia, Giant Orchid		19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Ophrys bombyliflora</i>		Small and dark	19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Ophrys ariadnae</i>		Early flowering	19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Ophrys cretica</i>		Late flowering	19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Ophrys episcopalis</i>			19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Ophrys creberimma</i>			19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Ophrys heldreichii</i>		Egyptian beard	19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Ophrys iricolor</i>		Pink underneath lip	19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Ophrys phryganae</i>		Yellow with a kink, fresh	19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Ophrys sicula</i>		Yellow, flat, going over	19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Ophrys gortynia</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Ophrys tenthredinifera</i>			19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Orchis anthropophora</i>	= Aceras, Man Orchid		19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Orchis italica</i>	Naked Man Orchid		19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Orchis lactea</i>	Milky Orchid		19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Orchis pauciflora</i>		Pale yellow and white	19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Orchis quadripunctata</i>	Four-spotted Orchid		19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Orchis sitiaca</i>			19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Serapias bergonii</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Serapias cordigera ssp cretica</i>			22 <sup>nd</sup>
	<i>Serapias lingua</i>			19 <sup>th</sup>
	<i>Serapias parviflora</i>			18 <sup>th</sup>

## Crete species lists and trip report, 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012

ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	17 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Family Podicipedidae (Grebes)</b>									
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	X							
<b>Family Ardeidae (Herons)</b>									
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	X							
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	X							
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>					X			
<b>Family Threskiornithidae (Ibises)</b>									
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	X							
<b>Family Anatidae (Swans, geese and ducks)</b>									
Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	X							
<b>Family Accipitridae (Hawks and Eagles)</b>									
Griffon Vulture	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lammergeier					X				
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>					X			
<b>Family Falconidae (Falcons)</b>									
Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>							H	
<b>Family Phasianidae (Pheasants and Partridges)</b>									
Chukar	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>							H	
<b>Family Rallidae (Rails and Crakes)</b>									
Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	X							
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	X							
Little Crake	<i>Porzana parva</i>	At least 4 at Agia Reservoir, 17 <sup>th</sup>							
<b>Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers)</b>									
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	X							
<b>Family Laridae (Gulls)</b>									
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)</b>									
Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>							X	
<b>Family Cuculidae (Cuckoos)</b>									
Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>			X					
<b>Family Strigidae (Owls)</b>									
Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops cyprius</i>							H	
<b>Family Apodidae (Swifts)</b>									
Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>						X		
Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>		X						
Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Upupidae (Hoopoes)</b>									
Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>						X		X
<b>Family Meropidae (Bee-eaters)</b>									
Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>				X			X	
Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	<i>Merops persicus</i>	An adult in olive groves behind Plakias, 18 <sup>th</sup>							
<b>Family Alaudidae (Larks)</b>									
Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>				X	X	X	X	
Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>			X			H		
<b>Family Hirundinidae (Swallows and Martins)</b>									
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>		X		X		X		
Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>							X	X

## Crete species lists and trip report, 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012

ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	17 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>
House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>		X		X	X	X	X	X
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</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					
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>						X		
Black-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla (flava) feldegg</i>		X						
<b>Family Troglodytidae (Wrens)</b>									
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>			X				X	
<b>Family Turdidae (Thrushes and Chats)</b>									
Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>		X	X		X	X		
Eastern Black-eared Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe (hispanica) melanoleuca</i>				X			X	
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>				X			X	
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Sylviidae (Warblers)</b>									
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Eastern Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia (cantillans) albistriata</i>				X		X		
Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>						H		
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	H	H				H		
Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>						X		
<b>Family Muscipidae (Flycatchers)</b>									
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>						X	X	
Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula</i>				X	X	X	X	
Collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>		X						
<b>Family Paridae ( Tits)</b>									
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Laniidae (Shrikes)</b>									
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>						X		
<b>Family Corvidae (Crows)</b>									
Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>							X	
Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>				X		X		
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>				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>									
Italian Sparrow	<i>Passer italiae</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Fringillidae (Finches)</b>									
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>				X		X	X	
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>		X		X	X	X	X	
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Emberizidae (Buntings)</b>									
Cretzschmar's Bunting	<i>Emberiza caesia</i>				X				
Corn Bunting	<i>Miliaria calandra</i>			X	X	X	X	X	

## Crete species lists and trip report, 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	17 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>
<b>AMPHIBIANS</b>										
	Green Toad	<i>Bufo viridis</i>					D			
	Cretan Water Frog	<i>Pelophylax cretensis</i>					X			
	American Bull Frog	<i>Lithobates catesbeiana</i>	X							
<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	
<b>Family Scincidae (Skinks)</b>										
	Ocellated Skink	<i>Chalcides ocellatus</i>						X		
<b>Family Colubridae (Terrapins)</b>										
	Balkan Terrapin	<i>Mauremys rivulata</i>		D					X	

<b>BUTTERFLIES</b>										
<b>Family Papilionidae (Swallowtails)</b>										
	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>					X	X	X	
	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclydes podalirius</i>				X				
E	Cretan Festoon	<i>Zerynthia cretica</i>				X	X		X	
<b>Family Pieridae (Whites)</b>										
	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>				X	X	X		
	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>					X	X	X	
	Eastern Dappled White	<i>Pontia edusa</i>		X		X		X		
	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>				X	X	X	X	
	Cleopatra	<i>Gonopteryx deopatra</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	
	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			
	Wall	<i>Lassiomata megera</i>		X				X	X	
<b>Family Lycaenidae (Blues &amp; Coppers)</b>										
	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>				X	X	X	X	
	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>						X	X	
	Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>							X	

<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>										
	Striped Hawkmoth	<i>Hippotion celerio</i>	One looking very tired, Plakias, 18 <sup>th</sup>							
E	Cretan Shieldbug	<i>Graphosoma creticum</i>	The orangey shieldbug on the hillside near Preveli							
	a shieldbug	<i>Graphosoma lineatum</i>	the black and red stripy shieldbugs, Preveli							
	an oil beetle	<i>Meloe sp</i>	Spili, 19 <sup>th</sup>							
E	a longhorn beetle	<i>Agapanthia probsti</i>	Mirthios, 21 <sup>st</sup>							
	Violet Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>	the flying black olive							
	a solitary wasp	<i>Megascolia flavifrons</i>	The large 'hornet', a parasite of big scarab beetles							
	Egyptian Grasshopper	<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i>	seen several times, the big grey locust							
	Nosed Grasshopper	<i>Acrida hungarica</i>	the stick-insect grasshopper, 18th							
	Giant Centipede	<i>Scolopendra cingulata</i>	under flat stones							
	a scorpion		Three seen under bark in the gorge, 23 <sup>rd</sup>							
	The Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>	the big blue dragonfly hawking the river, 20 <sup>th</sup>							
	Vagrant Emperor	<i>Anax ephippiger</i>	the large dull brown hawk							
	Southern Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum brunneum</i>	a pair in a roadside ditch near Preveli, 20 <sup>th</sup>							