

# Orchid Odyssey

Holiday Report 5-12 April 2016

Led by Yiannis Christofides



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## Introduction

Rhodes, the capital and largest of the Dodecanese islands, is situated close to the south-west coast of Turkey. With over 300 days of sunshine a year, it's no surprise that it is a popular destination for tourists, who flock to the island for its sunny beaches or perhaps to visit its ancient and Medieval ruins, of which there are plenty. However, its location and geology of schist and limestone means it is also blessed with an interesting mixture of Mediterranean and Asiatic flora and fauna. The island has a very impressive plant list of over 1,500 species, which are soon to be documented in a new flora of Rhodes by the botanist and author Michael Hassler. Rhodes or Rodos, has three mountains, the highest of these being Mt. Attavyros which rises to 1,215 m, followed by Mt. Profitis Ilias and Mt. Akramites. For orchids it is one of the best Greek islands, with a large list of diverse and interesting species, particularly in the genus *Ophrys*.



The orchids were to be our main focus during the holiday and as we were to be exploring the central and southern areas of the island, we based ourselves in two different locations, with three days in the centre of the island based on Mt. Profitis Ilias and four days 'down south' at Monolithos, near Mt. Akramites. This gave us a chance to make leisurely forays into the mountains, river valleys, forests, coastal and olive grove habitats. Our hope was to see around 30-40 species of orchids, together with some other very interesting flora and fauna. The guests joining us were Peter and Jane, Diane, Gill and Joan. The holiday was led by Yiannis Christofides.

The following is an outline of the week with a daily diary, followed by a gallery and species lists.

**Day 1, Tuesday 5th April.** Arrival at airport, hotel transfer and visit to Mt. Profitis Ilias.

**Day 2, Wednesday 6th April.** Profitis Ilias for orchids and endemic Rhodian Peony.

**Day 3, Thursday 7th April.** Centre of the Island and upper reaches of the River Gaidouras.

**Day 4, Friday 8th April.** Transfer to Monolithos and visit to Mt. Akramites.

**Day 5, Saturday 9th April.** South coast.

**Day 6, Sunday 10th April.** River Gadouras, and Southern Olive Groves.

**Day 7, Monday 11th April.** Attaviros.

**Day 8, Tuesday 12th April.** Return to UK.

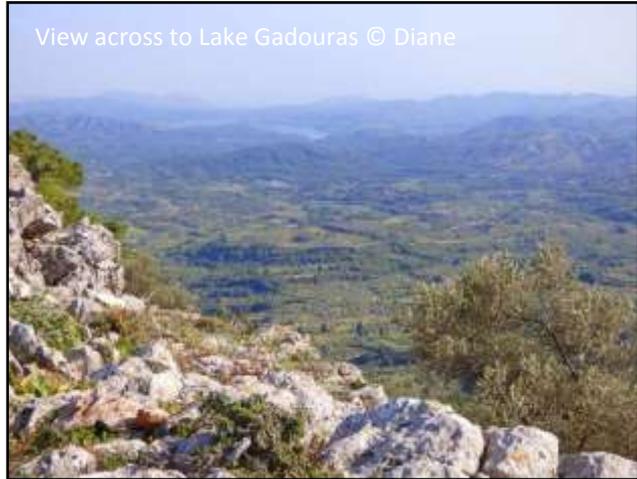
## **Day 1, 5th April. Arrival at Rhodes airport, transfer to hotel and Mt. Profitis Ilias.**

We arrived at Diagoras Airport on time and after collecting the vehicle, drove to our hotel, built by the Italians during their occupation in the early 20th Century. On our journey along the road up the mountain, a Cleopatra butterfly, (a relative of the Brimstone) was briefly seen. We were all rather hungry when we arrived at the hotel but by 2.00 pm were sitting down to enjoy our first wonderful lunch at the restaurant; a traditional Greek soup of bulgar wheat and biscuit, with cheese toasties, salad and a yoghurt dessert.

**Stop 1:** After lunch, we set off for a leisurely stroll in the ancient Italian Cypress and Turkish Pine forested slopes near the hotel. Temperatures were a warm 25° C and sunny. Yiannis informed us that the forest cypresses are a very rare sight and that Rhodes has the very best of them. The first orchids we found were Dense-flowered Orchids *Neotinea maculata*, Small Yellow Ophrys *Ophrys*



*sicula* and a fair number of Anatolian Orchid *Orchis anatolica*. Under the Cypresses the carpet of Rhodes Cyclamen *Cyclamen rhodium*, interspersed with the pale blue Balkan Anemone *Anemone blanda* (from the Latin, charming) was simply breathtaking. At the top of the slope, we took in the



impressive view of Lake Gadouras to the south-east before moving on.

**Stop 2:** We walked up the mountain and here found Green-winged Orchid *Anacamptis morio* and Reinhold's Ophrys *Ophrys reinholdii*. In spite of what had been a dry spring, it was good to find a bit of variety and this extended to other plants as well, including a rare Hawthorn species and *Pterocephalus brevis*, a mauve coloured Scabious. We walked the roadside and saw some more nice swathes of Anatolian Orchids before being distracted by a Blue Rock Thrush singing, as, one would imagine, from a high rock! Another bird posed a little question for us. Was that really a Chaffinch? In Rhodes, the species' two-tone answering calls are incessant and unfamiliar to most UK visitors. We were soon able to confirm this with sightings. Insects seen included Painted Lady and Small Copper butterflies, and an unusually large bee with a white tail which Diane spotted. On the way back down the slope, we found an Autumn Mandrake with purple flower buds.



We returned to the hotel at about 5pm, ready for our first Greek dinner. When we had all but finished, the staff at the hotel presented Diane with a birthday cake, much to her surprise. It was a nice touch and it has to be said that the staff were always helpful and friendly. Later that evening, the wonderful call of Scops Owl was heard.

## Day 2, 6th April. Profitis Ilias and Rhodes Peony.

A warm sunny morning greeted us. Early birds included Chaffinch, Wren, and Blue Tit and after our sumptuous continental breakfast we set off in leisurely fashion at about 9am.

**Stop 1:** Our first stop was at 650 metres amsl where we hoped to find the enigmatic Rhodian Peony *Paeonia clusii* ssp. *rhodia*. Upon reaching the spot we noticed lots of the plants and it was a chance to have a good look and take photos and breathe in the delicious scent of the flower which is best described as being something like a mixture of sweet cinnamon and cloves. We were fortunate in having Jane with us and her professional background gave us chance to think about which chemical compounds are responsible for the scent, possibly cinnamaldehyde and eugenol. Colours of the flower were stunning with deep red and yellow centres set against bright white petals. All around were plenty of Balkan Anemones. Yiannis pointed out Tuber Hawkbit *Leontodon tuberosus*. He explained that it has dark sepals, hairs and yellow flowers, looking similar to the perennial dandelion. We spent a short while examining Blue Rock-cress *Arabis verna*, a plant with lovely pink flowers (not blue) and one of only two members of the genus found in Rhodes. The other one, *Arabis alpina*, is completely alpine but also found on Profitis Ilias.



Then to a kind of Cleavers with whorls. We examined this under a lens and could see the rostrate spikes (beaks or hooks) which enable this plant to climb. On the way back to the bus we passed a *Styrax officinalis* which was not in flower. Diane gave us a common name for this plant, Storax. Another name is Snowdrop Bush, on account of the white flowers which we were yet to see!

Yiannis cheekily quizzed us over a 'holly' and soon Gill found an acorn cup to prove it was actually an oak species, *Quercus coccifera* or Kermes Oak. Butterfly-wise, a Red Admiral flashed by.

**Stop 2:** We moved across to a more open habitat of rocks and plants, and here Jane found a group of four Small Yellow Ophrys *Ophrys sicula* with very nice looking flowers. The orchids thus far had been quite challenging to find so it was good to see this grouping. Our next plant was *Ornithogalum montanum* (Mountain Star-of-Bethlehem). At this very good spot, we had argued the case for a *Cyclamen anatolicum* on account of the much deeper pink petals of one particular plant, so Yiannis took the time to explain that the only Cyclamens in Rhodes without an auricle are *Cyclamen rhodium*. This plant had none! Soon an Eastern Festoon butterfly glided by and Yiannis lost no time explaining that its foodplant was *Aristolochia* of which there are two species on the island. This one was *Aristolochia guichardii*.



Yiannis gave us another little lesson, this time on the differences between peas, vetches and vetchlings, of which there are many genera in the family Fabaceae. A brick-red coloured Red Vetchling *Lathyrus cicera* was seen so Yiannis chose this and another plant and explained that Vicia or vetches, have leaflets and tendrils at the end but if the plant has large stipules it is not a vetch. *Lathyrus* has winged stems and the plant we were studying had no leaves but only stipules, taking the place of leaves to feed the plant. With Yellow flowers, we could deduce that the specimen we were looking at was Winged Vetchling *Lathyrus ochrus*. Simple when you know how! Reptile-wise, an Oertzen's Wall Lizard was seen, and photographed by Peter.

In a nearby glade, Joan found a good number of Provence Orchid *Orchis provincialis* which provided a good photographic opportunity. Lovely pale yellow flowers with reddish coloured spots or dashes on the lip.

**Stop 3:** We moved westwards and parked near a place affectionately known as 'Weathertop'. More Provence Orchids were seen as we walked up the slope, along with our first Profitis Ilias Bee Orchid

*Ophrys oreas*, a Rhodian endemic. More Eastern Festoons were seen alighting on flowers, offering another chance for photos. Diane managed to get closer this time.



Eastern Festoon © Diane



Ophrys dodekanensis © Yiannis

At the top, the beautiful Purple Viper's Bugloss *Echium plantagineum* was seen with its lovely pink and mauve tones. These were growing in almost mat-like formations due to goat grazing. Yiannis mentioned that ordinarily, the plant grows much taller. The very pretty Spotted Sand Rockrose, *Tuberaria guttata* was here too, a lovely species with deep yellow petals and dark purple spots. Orchid-wise, lots of Green-winged Orchids and Dense Flowered Orchids were found. The glade was full of flowering Small-fruited Asphodels. Our esteemed guide explained that the reason so many were present was that the goats find them unpalatable! Also present were Jersey Toadflax *Linaria pelisseriana* a species with purple flowers and long spurs, *Anagallis arvensis* (a blue variety of Scarlet Pimpernel), Crown Anemone *Anemone coronaria*, and our first Small-flowered Catchfly *Silene gallica*, which has colourful deep pink and white flowers. An interesting discussion ensued about the differences between the genera *Petrorhagia* (a small genus of the pink or carnation family) and *Silene*. *Silenes* are characterised by the calyx inflating when the flowers go over. Butterflies seen included Painted Lady, Clouded Yellow, Eastern Festoon and Small Copper. Apart from some Painted Ladies which were presumably migrating, the butterflies were in pristine condition.



Silene gallica © Yiannis

**Stop 4:** We ate lunch in an open area with plenty of flowers and soon found a very obliging Green Hairstreak which allowed close views as it crawled around an Asphodel inflorescence searching for nectar. It was so 'tame' that it was photographed by practically everyone present. Characteristically, there were plenty of *Ornithogalum montanum* growing here and more Anatolian Orchids *Orchis anatolica*.

After lunch we moved across the road and soon found Small Horned Bee Orchid *Ophrys cornutula*. Trying to be certain which of the Oestrifera group this species was, started an interesting discussion. Profitis Ilias Bee Orchid *Ophrys oreas* was again found and Gill was soon pointing out a nice grouping of a dozen or so Reinhold's Ophrys. Giant Orchid *Himantoglossum* (formerly *Barlia*) *robertianum* was seen, well past its best, but a lovely group of Aegean Butterfly Orchids *Anacamptis papilionacea* was seen along with more Provence Orchids. We made a brief visit to another hillside where Rhodian Peony grows and breathed in the magnificent scent again.



Green Hairstreak © Gill



Ophrys cornutula © Diane

**Stop 5:** Continuing our way down the mountain road, we made an impromptu roadside stop for Weiss' Grape Hyacinth *Muscari Weseii*, growing from a rockface.

**Stop 6:** Our last stop on the western side of the mountain was to check if *Ophrys episcopalis ssp. samia* was present. Unfortunately it wasn't but a number of flowering Reinhold's Ophrys were found along with a few white Pyramidal Orchids *Anacamptis pyramidalis*. Other plants of note included Pitch Trefoil *Bituminaria bituminosa*, a rather beautiful species with purple flowers which are very attractive to insects but with leaves which smell of tar when bruised.

**Stop 7:** We drove to a fountain where endemic Gizani fish had been introduced many years ago. The fish are a little nondescript, silvery-brown looking with a lateral stripe. This tiny species is named after an Italian professor, Alessandro Ghigi, who first discovered it on Rhodes early in the 20th century. In the fountain where they grow large because people feed them, they still measure

only 3-4 inches long at best. That the Gizani survives elsewhere on the island is amazing, since in summer most of the rivers have dried to a trickle, and the Gizani has to make do with what little water is left, often hanging on in pools and puddles. After taking photos of the fish and looking at a large Carob tree beside the fountain, we moved on.

**Stop 8: Fontoukli church for ancient Olive trees and Oriental Planes.** In the church gardens, we found Rhodian Woodcock Orchid *Ophrys rhodia* with good flowers and in the small woodland below, a few spikes of Violet Limodore *Limodorum abortivum* were seen but were not in flower. The ancient Olives and Oriental Planes were also spectacular, as was the beautiful church so all things considered, it was well worth the visit. That evening, we dined out in the village of Apollona and when we arrived back at the hotel, Diane gave us a little astronomy lesson.



Gizani © Diane



Ophrys dodekanensis © Diane



Wall paintings in church © Diane



Church © Jane

## Day 3, 7th April. Upper Gadouras River and the centre of the island.

After a healthy breakfast of yoghurt, fruit, honey, scrambled eggs and toast, we set out in warm temperatures of 20° C and 25% relative humidity.

**Stop 1: Roadside stop.** Once we were off the mountain, We noticed some very tall blue flowers growing in an olive grove. These were the rather stately Hyacinth Squill *Scilla hyacinthoides*. They dwarfed some nearby Southern Grape Hyacinths *Muscari neglectum* Jill had spotted. Tassel Hyacinth *Muscari comosum* also grew here along with the pale yellow Hairy Yellow Vetch *Vicia hybrid*, a Medicago species and plenty of *Linum bienne* a Flax, with delicate pale blue flowers.



Scilla hyacinthoides © Diane

Yiannis then gave us a little class on Arabian Rockrose *Fumana Arabica* which is like a Helianthemum rockrose but without stamens around the outer anthers. Attention was soon drawn to Green Hairstreak butterflies on the abundant Genistas, giving us a chance to appreciate the differences between the two Genistas species present, both of which have diagnostic trifoliate leaves. The Green Hairstreak uses Thorny Broom *Genista acanthoclada* as a larval foodplant on Rhodes but whether they use *Genista monspessulana* (Montpelier Broom) was not known.

**Stop 2: Viewpoint.** As we travelled further afield and into the rolling hills, we stopped for magnificent views of the eastern side of Mt. Attaviros. Here it was easy to appreciate the sudden change in habitat from Pine forest to characteristic Phrygana on account of the Cistus, Sage and Lavender. Another characteristic plant, Shrubby Gromwell *Lithodora hispidula* looked



Green Hairstreak on Cistus creticus © Greenwings

beautiful with its bright cobalt-blue coloured flowers. Yiannis told us that on Cyprus, the flowers are all red. Conehead Thyme *Thymus capitatus* and Small-flowered Rockrose *Cistus parvifolius* and Pink Rock-rose *Cistus creticus*, were present.

At this spot we also found an interesting member of the Leguminaceae, Spiny Sulla *Hedysarum spinosissimum*. We examined it under Diane's loupe, noting its exquisite pink-fringed seed pods. Small-flowered Tongue Orchid *Serapias parviflora*, Greek Ploughshare Orchid *Serapias bergoinii* Sainfoin *Onobrychis caput-galli*, and South Aegean Milkvetch *Astragalus austroaegaeus* were growing beside the road. Jane pointed out a pair of Kestrels and we watched in astonishment as they made a food-pass with associated calls. Other birds included Booted Eagle and a singing Sardinian Warbler.

The butterflies really enjoyed this open area, with yet more Green Underside Blues and Green Hairstreaks flitting from flower to flower. Common Swallowtail was seen and also a female Scarce Swallowtail egg-laying on Almond-leaved Pear *Pyrus amygdaliformis*. A Large White had us chasing off down the road, checking to see if it might have been Black-veined White.



Hedysarum spinosissimum © Yiannis



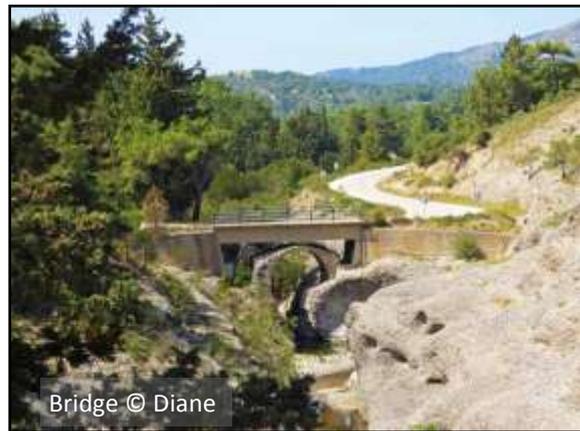
Ophrys mammosa © Greenwings

**Stop 3: Mammosa site.** This promising location did not disappoint in terms of the key species, providing a good number of Breasted Ophrys *Ophrys mammosa*.

**Stop 4: Upper River Gadouras.** Here we found several Violet Limodores in flower, with one very good specimen under the trees. Small Yellow Ophrys and a solitary *Ophrys polyxo* which we originally held to be *Ophrys dodekanensis*. We crossed the little stream and found Naked Man Orchid *Orchis italica* past its best and soon found the red and yellow parasitic plant *Cytinus hypocistis*, which parasitizes *Cistus* and whose flowers are pollinated by ants. Under the canopy of the Pine forest, lots more Violet Limodores were seen.

At the river, Karpathos Frogs were both seen and heard calling and a few Gizani, the endemic cyprinid were seen darting about. Dragonfly-wise, Beautiful Demoiselle, Blue-tailed Damsel, Small Skimmer and Black-tailed Skimmer were recorded, together with an unidentified Darter. Rather fortuitously, Matt met us here just in time for lunch! His mother-in-law had baked some tasty Dolmades, Cheese Pies, Spinach pies and Easter biscuits.

**Stop 5:** Very close to an old Italian bridge, built during the occupation of the island, a perfect specimen of Naked Man Orchid, *Orchis italica*, stood out above the grassy sward. It was a good reward having thus far seen only less than perfect specimens. After the obligatory photos, we wandered along a small track leading up to the summit of the hillside, where a small group of King Ferdinand's (Earwig) Orchids *Ophrys regis-ferdinandii* were found and a little higher up, a couple of very beautiful Enamel Bee Orchids *Ophrys candica*. It was a species which all of us, and especially Joan had wanted to see. Also present were Cretan Crown Vetch *Coronilla (Securigera) cretica* with the two colour forms, and also One-flowered Horseshoe Vetch, *Hippocrepis unisiliquosa*.



Bridge © Diane



*Limodorum abortivum* © Diane



*Orchis italica* © Diane

**Stop 6: Lake Gadouras.** We continued in a south-easterly direction towards Lake Gadouras and searched it for birds, seeing Great Crested Grebe and Little Grebe (aka Dabchick) but it was eerily quiet save for the occasional whinnying of the Little Grebes. Peter photographed an egg-laying Eastern Dappled White butterfly and a long search for Rhodian Fritillary *Fritillaria rhodia* was rewarded with some fresh specimens, all a little on the small side, but exquisite nonetheless.

**Stop 7:** Our final location for the day was at a site for several orchid species. Here Small Horned

Bee Ophrys *Ophrys cornutula*, caused a little debate on account of similarities with other species. Also here were *Ophrys polyxo*, *O. dodekanensis* and *Serapias parviflora*. In spite of the dry conditions, two of our key species were found here, namely Lax-flowered Orchid *Anacamptis laxiflora*, and the smallest of the Ophrys genus on Rhodes, Bumblebee Orchid *Ophrys bombyliflora*, the latter found in good numbers and excellent condition. Alas, the large pond had completely dried out so no dragonflies could be found, but we were rewarded with a singing Corn Bunting before we set off back to our hotel, in time to relax before completing our lists and enjoying a well-deserved dinner.



#### **Day 4, 8th April. Transfer to 2nd hotel in Monolithos.**

After breakfast, we set out to the western coastal road, (via the village of Salakos, where we stopped to purchase a few provisions) before arriving at Ancient Kameiros, the small city built by the Dorian's on the western side of Rhodes. It was easy to see why this spot had been chosen for settlement, with commanding views across to the island of Simi and Turkey. En route we passed a flock of Cormorants.

**Stop 1: Ancient Kameiros.** Yiannis stopped to point out the three very beautiful species of Cistus found on Rhodes which were all growing here together: *Cistus parviflorus*, *Cistus creticus* and *Cistus salvifolius*. We added a little mnemonic to differentiate between them. 'Creticus are crinkled', 'parvi means small', and 'salvofolius are white, from salvation'.

At the monument itself, the winds had become quite strong so we stayed at the bottom of the site

where there was more shelter, and found a few flowers. As with many of the ancient sites, the authorities now believe in 'tidying the place up'. This was unfortunate since a good many flowers had gone. Yiannis stopped to read some Ancient Greek writing but it was difficult even for him, firstly, because there are no gaps between words and secondly because the verbs come at the end of the sentence, as in German. We did get an idea of a famous battle involving some named persons though! While looking at the ruins, a medium sized Starred Agama posed well for photos.



Ancient Kamiros © Diane



Gorge © Diane



Campanula hagielia © Diane

Small Rhodian Bellflower *Campanula rhodensis* was quite at home here among the rock together with that most common of Phrygana plants, Shrubby Gromwell. Hairy Trigonella *Medicago monspeliaca* and Edible Birdsfoot Trefoil *Lotus edulis* were recorded and with Yiannis' help, we were able to fully appreciate the kite-shaped seedpods typical of all lotuses. Another plant of note was Spiny Valantia *Valantia hispida*.

**Stop 2:** We continued to an impressive gorge and found two endemics here, Lettuce-leaved Star-thistle *Centaurea lactucifolia*, beloved of humans and goats alike for its food value, and Large Rhodian Bellflower *Campanula hagielia*, a beautiful species growing on the gorge walls. Also seen were Large Venus' Looking-glass *Legousia pentagonia*, a Tordylium, Achilleas, and Small -flowered Dutchman's Pipe *Aristolochia parviflora*, the second larval food-plant of Eastern Festoon on Rhodes.

**Stop 3:** We arrived at Monolithos, dropped off the cases in our hotel and then had lunch, eating some of Matt's mother in law's home-made food before setting out for Monolithos Castle. Some of our group stayed below, while Diane, Yiannis and Peter went up the small church and castle. Yiannis found a Paronychia, *P. echinulata*, one of the 'wanted' species for the new Flora by Michael Hassler.

With the weather still windy, we decided to drive to Fourni Beach for more shelter and botanical interest. It was a long and winding road down but on the way Diane found some interesting textures and rock formations, to be photographed later. A Black-eared Wheatear was seen flying

onto one of the rocks and sat still long enough for us to see it from the bus. At the beach, it was indeed more sheltered so some of us took the opportunity to sit for a while, gazing at the sea, while others went off on a botanical search and found Rough Clover *Trifolium scabrum*, Stiff Chamomile *Anthemis rigida* and a few other plants.

**Stop 4:** At around 4pm we drove back to the hotel, and then moved to the forest on Mt. Akrimitis. We found our first Attaviros Bee Orchid *Ophrys attaviria* of the trip here, along with two Violet Limodores, and a couple of unidentified orchid flower spikes, but with only buds.

In the evening, we dined out at a local restaurant.



## Day 5, 9th April. South coast.

**Stops 1 & 2:** We made an impromptu roadside stop for a perched raptor, and, while watching this, a stunning Cretzchmar's Bunting was spotted just a few metres from our bus. We then made a very brief stop to look at a dead Coin Snake in the road.

**Stop 3:** With our windows down, Corn Buntings could be heard from the bus, so we made another stop for birds. An attractive Woodchat Shrike was seen perched in scrub and lots of hirundines were flying overhead. The majority of these were Red-rumped Swallows. A small colony of Spanish Sparrows was also seen, the males with their extensive bold black chest markings, and a Sardinian Warbler would occasionally pop up from the scrub. Yiannis pointed out Narrow-leaved Bugloss *Echium angustifolium*, a beautiful plant with deep pink flowers.



Woodchat Shrike © Diane



Distant Junipers & Poppy © Diane

**Stop 4: Apolakkia Bay.** Large Fruited Juniper *Juniperus oxycedrus ssp. deltoides* was thriving here, and really living up to its name, the fruits or cones being very obvious. Horned Dock *Rumex bucephalophorus* was also found, lots of *Lagurus ovatus* (Bunny's Tails) and Golden Starwort *Asteriscus aquaticus* with bright yellow flowers, looking a little like Fleabane. Yiannis pointed out that the plant has no spines.

Yiannis indulged us with an interesting chat about a couple of Erodiums, first, with *Erodium laciniatum*, a plant with small and very interesting seed pods, looking like little coiled springs with backward pointing hairs. The pods react to moisture and coil their way into the soil, and the hairs prevent them moving back out. The pod even has a depth gauge, a little awn which stops it going too deep into the ground. The second Erodium we looked at had a similar mechanism but was much larger than the first, at around 4 inches in length.

Barrel Sweetener *Satureja thymbra*, was growing abundantly here. Whilst common in Rhodes, it's a red

data plant in Cyprus and is also quite beautiful, smelling of Thyme and bearing small pink flowers. We also found our first Hollow stemmed Asphodel *Asphodelus fistulosus* and our first Bug Orchids *Anacamptis fragrans*, growing very close to the road. Peter found *Mesobuthus gibbosus* a brown scorpion. Bird-wise, Crested Lark and Sardinian Warblers were present and We spotted a small flock of Short-toed Larks.



Long-tailed Blue © Diane

Back in the vehicle, Yiannis held yet another little class on Legumes. The first specimen, *Hymenocarpus circinnatus* had lovely seed pods in the form of discs and pink fringes. Then, Scorpion Crown Vetch *Coronilla scorpiodes*, with scorpion shaped pods, and finally Prickly Scorpion's Tail *Scorpiurus muricatus*, a plant with seed pods set in a spiral around the stem.

**Stop 5: Beloneae track.** The previous year had seen lots of orchids here but today, only Bug Orchid, and a few Pyramidal Orchids were in good flower. Other plants seen included more *Satureja thymbra*, and in the Asteracea, we found Zakynthos Hawk's-beard *Crepis zacintha*, (a plant whose seed pods resemble fruits) and Crown Medick *Medicago coronata*. Butterfly-wise, Long-tailed Blue and Green Hairstreak were present.



Anacamptis fragrans © Greenwings

## Day 6, 10th April. Gadouras and southern Olive groves.

**Stop 1:** After breakfast, we set off in an easterly direction from Monolithos, and made an impromptu stop at a small Olive grove and here found Bug Orchid *Anacamptis fragrans* and Rhodian Horned Ophrys *Ophrys polyxo*. A Sardinian warbler was briefly seen.

**Stop 2:** Moving north along the coastal road towards Gadouras, with the beautiful blue Aegean beside us for much of the journey, we eventually arrived at the river. The first birds seen (and heard) were Crested Larks. This species, a little bigger than Skylark, delivers its musical song from the ground or a very low perch. Yellow Horned Poppy was growing beside the track, and we were soon investigating Willow-leaved Rockrose *Helianthemum salicifolium*, the beautiful Dyers Greenweed *Alkanna tinctoria*, a yellow Ground-pine *Ajuga chamaepitys* and the fruit of Sainfoin. We were also startled by a Great Spotted Cuckoo flying past, a very large bird with striking yellowish and black markings. A brief discussion ensued about the host species for this Cuckoo. Magpies are normally used but here on Rhodes there are no magpies, so we surmised that it was probably either migrating, or if nesting, preyed upon Jays, of which there are plenty in Rhodes.

Further along, Gill found Weasel's Snout *Misopates orontium*, and Joan, Rhodian Woodcock Ophrys *Ophrys rhodia*. It was a good grouping of specimens in perfect condition. Barbary Nut Iris *Moraea sisyrrinchium* was growing along the path but the usually beautiful purple flowers were all closed.

**Stop 3:** At the river, we found Calypso Bee Orchid *Ophrys calypsus* - 3 nice specimens - and the wonderful Long-haired Pink *Dianthus crinitus*. Very few of these plants were in flower but occasionally we'd find beautiful white or pink feathery inflorescences among the plentiful buds. Plenty of Greek Plowshare Orchid *Serapias bergonii* and Small-flowered Tongue Orchid were also found along with a nice *Centaurea aegialophila*.

The river was pretty dry, save for a few pools and was now just a muddy track baked into a pattern of fissures and plates. This meant there were very few waders to be seen. That said, Mallards, Sedge Warbler, Sardinian Warbler, a group of 3 Common Buzzards and later, a Common Buzzard mobbing a Booted Eagle entertained us briefly. Butterfly - wise, we found a new species for the holiday, Pygmy Skipper, as well as Large and Small Whites, Eastern Dappled White, Clouded Yellow and Painted Lady.

**Stop 4:** We searched the olive groves for Colossal orchid but none were found. However, a good number of Calypso Bee Orchids, Greek Plowshare, Pyramidal, Rhodian Woodcock and Breasted Orchid were found.

**Stop 5: Ice cream stop.** After the river, we drove south along the coast road and near Kiotari stopped for ice cream, cake and coffee. It had been a rather warm morning! In the taverna, Swallows provided a little avian distraction having built their nest there.

**Stop 6:** We moved along to the olive groves and parked in shade, quickly finding one of the key species, Carian Plowshare Orchid *Serapias carica*. These were good large plants with big flowers in perfect condition.

**Stop 7:** At another stretch of groves, it wasn't long before we found Beetle Orchid, *Ophrys blitopertha*, with wide yellow margins on the lip. These were in excellent condition and in good numbers. Also seen were Attaviros Bee Orchid *Ophrys attaviria*, and Bug Orchid, *Anacamptis fragrans*. There were also a few King Ferdinand's Ophrys and a couple of Small-flowered Yellow Ophrys.

**Stop 8:** After the groves, we moved on to the a location where Naxos Bee Orchid *Ophrys cretica* ssp. *beloniae* was found, along with a few more King Ferdinand's Ophrys. Also seen was Carian Plowshare Orchid *Serapias carica*.

**Stop 9: Kattavia plains.** Here we made a stop to have a look at Field Galdiolus *Gladiolus anatolicus* and admired a number of Lesser Fiery Copper butterflies, nectaring on wayside flowers, along with Common Blue and Clouded Yellow. The Crown Daisies here exhibited both colour forms, the all-yellow and the yellow-and-white varieties.

**Stop 10:** Another roadside stop was made for Sibthorpe's Ebony *Ebenus sibthorpii*, a beautiful





Ophrys blitopertha © Diane



Serapias bergonii © Diane

member of the pea family with bright pink inflorescences. Nearby, Yiannis found a Swallowtail butterfly larvae, almost fully grown on the wayside Fennel.

**Stop 11:** We ended the day's excursion with a visit to Prasonisi, the most southerly point on the island, stopping en-route for a Blue Cheeked Bee-eater on overhead wires. We had a quick look at the beach and 'isthmus', took a few photos and then drove back to the hotel. Dinner that night was roast lamb at Old Monoithos restaurant.

## Day 7, 11th April. Attaviros.

The skies this morning were grey, and a few spots of rain had fallen overnight. Over breakfast, Attaviros was shrouded in cloud.

**Stop 1:** Undaunted, we set off and with a reading of 14°C on the thermometer, it seemed decidedly cool. Nonetheless, we arrived at our first destination on the mountain and quickly found Enamel Bee Ophrys *Ophrys candica*, Reinhold's Ophrys *Ophrys reinholdii*, Small Yellow Ophrys *Ophrys sicula*, Rhodian Woodcock Ophrys *Ophrys rhodia* and Pyramidal Orchid *Anacamptis pyramidalis*. Walking up the mountain road, we found more of these all the way up along with a *Tragopogon* species, and *Trifolium resupinatum*.

As we entered a small glade, we found a Black-veined White butterfly larva and a chrysalis. A few sunny periods came and went and the temperature increased to 18° C such that the conditions for walking were rather pleasant.

**Stop 2:** At the forest, Yiannis quickly found a new orchid for the trip and quizzed us on it, suggesting it was something to do with the Greek alphabet. Gill impressed us as she rattled off the

whole Greek alphabet from Alpha to Omega, at which point Yiannis smiled and we guessed that the specimen was *Ophrys omegaifera* the Royal Ophrys (Omega Bee Orchid). The most striking thing about it was the flower's boxing glove shape. We found several specimens, but most had gone over although one or two spikes had perfect flowers. A short walk down a track added Crown Anemone in perfect condition and as we were looking at this and some tiny Eastern Festoon larvae on *Aristolochia* plants, the rain came down. It was a short sharp shower, so we returned to the vehicle and had a quick drink while we waited for it to pass.



**Stop 3:** Above the tree line, Yiannis went in search of orchids amongst the scrub, which consisted mainly of *Genista acanthoclada*, *Lithodora hispidula* and *Cistus*. Few orchids were found other than *Orchis anatolica* and these were going over. An impressive number of Ravens drew most eyes skywards and two of the dozen or so birds seen were involved in courtship and aerial passes. Their clucking sounds carried far. Other birds included Chaffinch, Stonechat, and Wren. Even here, the *Cistus salvifolius* had closed petals, whereas the *Cistus creticus* was fully open. With little orchid interest higher up, we drove back to the viewing point and gazed out at Strongili and the other islands. We noticed through our binoculars that only one island seemed inhabited while a few others had fish breeding pens.



**Stop 4:** After lunch we nipped to a nearby taverna for coffee and were met by Matt. A Large Wall Brown butterfly was fluttering inside the taverna. This was the only Large Wall Brown seen on the trip.

**Stop 5:** Driving towards Agios Issidoros we parked at an abandoned field for King Ferdinand's Ophrys (Earwig Orchid). One very nice specimen measured perhaps 9 inches tall. There was a great variety of Lathyrus including Ciliate Vetchling *Lathyrus blepharicarpos* with brick-red flowers. Gill found Forked Catchfly *Silene dichotoma*, soft cream in colour and with a beautifully striped calyx. Also seen were a variety of Onobrychis and Henbit *Lamium amplexicaule*. Butterfly distractions included Long-tailed Blue, Painted Lady and Clouded Yellow.

**Stop 6:** At another stop, Yiannis found Snowdrop Bush *Styrax officinalis* in full flower (therefore scented) and an unusual looking Star-thistle *Centaurea urvillei* with red centres and stalk-less flowers. An obliging Clouded Yellow butterfly, hunkered down in the sward made for a good photo.

**Stop 7:** Our last but one stop was beside another olive grove, where at the roadside, a very nice collection of King Ferdinand's Ophrys greeted us, some of them with quite wide flowers but none of them wide enough to be considered Mirror Orchids! Also seen were Small Yellow Ophrys *Ophrys sicula*, a group of possible *Ophrys sancta* Holy Orchid (not in flower) at a spot Matt had found them in previous years. Breasted Ophrys and Reinhold's Ophrys were also seen. One last bite of Matt's mother-in-law's cooking (actually a very large sponge cake) was enough to send us back to the hotel, happy.



**Stop 8:** Driving back to the hotel, we made an impromptu stop on the way back for Anatolian Gladiolus *Gladiolus anatolicus*. These plants are of a smaller stature than Field Gladiolus, and with pinker flowers and more obvious pale stripes on the petals.

## Day 8, return to the UK

In light of the lunchtime flight, we made an early start after breakfast, saying goodbye to George at the Hotel and had a leisurely drive back to the airport, checking in in good time.

**Footnote:** A total of 32 orchid species were seen, together with a host of other interesting plants and wildlife. The number of Ophrys could have been higher, but in spite of a dry spring the species count was actually very good and we saw most species that were expected. The weather for the holiday was excellent, with sunshine on most days, as befits Rhodes which is also known as the Island of Sun.

**Acknowledgements:**

Greenwings would like to thank all their guests on this trip for their wonderful support, good humour and enthusiasm throughout the holiday, and also for their help in compiling species lists and for the use of their photographs and artwork. Special thanks must also go to Yiannis Christofides for his expert guiding and unbounded enthusiasm for every aspect of the botany on the holiday and for compiling the species lists and editing the report. Scientific nomenclature follows current flora. Alternative common and vernacular names have been provided in parenthesis where species are known by different names. NIF means 'not in flower'. Thanks also to Michael Hassler (Orchids) and Dave Smallshire (Dragonflies) for helping with some of the identifications.

## **Species lists and gallery overleaf**

Orchid Odyssey species lists 5<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2016

Orchids									
			April 5 <sup>th</sup>	April 6 <sup>th</sup>	April 7 <sup>th</sup>	April 8 <sup>th</sup>	April 9 <sup>th</sup>	April 10 <sup>th</sup>	April 11 <sup>th</sup>
	Scientific	Common name	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4	day 5	day 6	day 7
	Ophrys speculum group								
1	Ophrys regis-ferdinandii	King Ferdinand's Ophrys			✓		✓	✓	✓
	Ophrys mammosa group								
2	Ophrys ferrum-equinum	Horseshoe Ophrys		✓					
3	Ophrys mammosa	Breasted Ophrys			✓			✓	✓
	Ophrys lutea group								
4	Ophrys sicula		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
	Ophrys reinholdii group								
5	Ophrys reinholdii	Reinhold's Ophrys	✓	✓	✓				✓
6	Ophrys cretica ssp. beloniae	Naxos Bee Orchid						✓	
	Ophrys umbilicata group								
7	Ophrys rhodia	Rhodian Woodcock Ophrys		✓				✓	✓
8	Ophrys bombyliflora	Bumblebee Ophrys			✓				
	Ophrys fusca group								
9	Ophrys attaviria	Attaviros Bee Orchid				✓		✓	
10	Ophrys blitopertha	Beetle Ophrys						✓	
	Ophrys omegaifera group								
11	Ophrys omegaifera	Royal Ophrys (Omega Bee Orchid)							✓
	Ophrys holoserica group								
12	Ophrys candica	Enamel Bee Orchid			✓				✓
13	Ophrys oreas	Profitis Ilias Bee Orchid		✓					
	Ophrys heldreichii group								
14	Ophrys calypsus	Calypso Bee Orchid						✓	
15	Ophrys dodekanensis	Dodekanese Ophrys	✓				✓		
16	Ophrys polyxo	Rhodian Horned Bee Ophrys			✓			✓	✓
	Ophrys oestrifera group								
17	Ophrys cornutula	Small Horned Bee Orchid		✓	✓				
	Serapias group								
18	Serapias bergonii	Greek Ploughshare			✓			✓	
19	Serapias carica	Carian Plowshare						✓	
20	Serapias parviflora	Small-flowered Tongue Orchid			✓		✓	✓	
	Anacamptis group								
21	Himantoglossum robertianum	Giant Orchid		✓					
22	Anacamptis laxiflora	Lax-flowered Orchid			✓				
23	Anacamptis papilionacea	Aegean Butterfly Orchid		✓					
24	Anacamptis pyramidalis	Pyramidal orchid		✓			✓	✓	✓
25	Anacamptis morio	Green-winged Orchid	✓	✓					
26	Anacamptis sancta	Holy Orchid						NIF	
27	Anacamptis fragrans	Bug Orchid					✓	✓	

	Scientific	Common name	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4	day 5	day 6	day 7
28	<i>Orchis anatolica</i>	Anatolian Orchid	✓	✓					
29	<i>Orchis italica</i>	Naked Man Orchid			✓				
Orchis mascula group									
30	<i>Orchis provincialis</i>	Provence Orchid		✓					
Neotinea group									
31	<i>Neotinea maculata</i>	Dense-flowered Orchid	✓	✓	✓				
<b>'ancient' group</b>									
32	<i>Limodorum abortivum</i>	Violet Bird's Nest Orchid		NIF	✓				
Other flora seen during week									
	Scientific	Common name							
Aspleniaceae									
1	<i>Asplenium ceterach</i>	Rusty-back Fern							
Pinaceae									
2	<i>Pinus brutia</i>	Turkish Pine/Rough Pine							
Cupressaceae									
3	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	Italian Cypress							
4	<i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i>	Large-fruited Juniper							
Alliaceae									
5	<i>Allium neapolitanum</i>	Neapolitan Garlic							
Amaryllidaceae									
6	<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	Sea Daffodil							
Asphodelaceae									
7	<i>Asphodelus aestivus</i>	Small-fruited Asphodel							
8	<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	Hollow-stemmed Asphodel							
Araceae									
9	<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	Friar's Cowl							
10	<i>Arum dioscoridis</i>	Dioscorides Arum							
11	<i>Dracunculus vulgaris</i>	Dragon Arum							
Hyacinthaceae									
12	<i>Ornithogalum montanum</i>	Mountain Star-of Bethlehem							
13	<i>Ornithogalum narbonense</i>	Southern Star-of-Bethlehem							
14	<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel Hyacinth							
15	<i>Muscari neglectum</i>	Southern Grape Hyacinth							
16	<i>Muscari weissii</i>	Weiss' Grape Hyacinth							
17	<i>Bellevalia trifoliata</i>	Three-leaved Hyacinth							
18	<i>Scilla hyacintoides</i>	Hyacinth Squill							
Iridaceae									
19	<i>Moraea sisyrrinchium</i>	Barbary Nut Iris							
20	<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Field Gladiolus							
21	<i>Gladiolus anaticus</i>	Anatolian Gladiolus							
Liliaceae									
22	<i>Gagea peduncularis</i>	Long-stalked Star-of-Bethlehem							
23	<i>Gagea graeca</i>	Greek Star-of-Bethlehem							

24	<i>Fritillaria rhodia</i>	Rhodian Fritillary
	Poaceae	
25	<i>Arundo donax</i> ssp. <i>donax</i>	Plinius' Giant Cane
26	<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	Bunny Tails
	Anacardiaceae	
27	<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastix Tree
	Apiaceae	
28	<i>Ferula communis</i>	Giant Fennel
29	<i>Tordylium apulum</i>	Mediterranean Hartwort
	Aristolochiaceae	
30	<i>Aristolochia guichardii</i>	Rhodian Dutchman's Pipe
31	<i>Aristolochia parviflora</i>	Small-flowered Dutchman's Pipe (gorge)
	Asteraceae	
32	<i>Centaurea lactucifolia</i>	Lettuce-leaved Star-thistle (gorge)
33	<i>Centaurea aegialophila</i>	
34	<i>Leontodon tuberosus</i>	Tuber Hawkbit
35	<i>Anthemis chia</i>	Chios Chamomile
36	<i>Anthemis rigida</i>	Stiff Chamomile
37	<i>Asteriscus aquaticus</i>	Golden Starwort
38	<i>Bellis annua</i>	Annual Daisy
39	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Common Daisy
40	<i>Crepis zacintha</i>	Zakynthos Hawk's-beard
41	<i>Crupina crupinastrum</i>	False Saw-wort
42	<i>Glebionis coronaria</i>	Crown Daisy
43	<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>	Spiny Starwort
44	<i>Tragopogon porrifolius</i>	Southern Salsify
45	<i>Geropogon hybridus</i>	Slender Salsify
	Boraginaceae	
46	<i>Alkanna tinctoria</i>	Dyer's Alkanet
47	<i>Anchusa azurea</i>	Garden Anchusa
48	<i>Anchusa undulata</i> ssp. <i>hybrida</i>	Hybrid Alkanet
49	<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	Cretan Hound's-tongue
50	<i>Echium angustifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved Bugloss
51	<i>Echium arenarium</i>	Coastal Viper's Bugloss
52	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Viper's-bugloss
53	<i>Lithodora hispidula</i>	Shrubby Gromwell
54	<i>Neatostema apulum</i>	Yellow Gromwell
	Brassicaceae	
55	<i>Arabis verna</i>	Blue Rock-cress
56	<i>Aethionema arabicum</i>	Arabian Stonecress
57	<i>Biscutella didyma</i>	Annual Buckler Mustard
58	<i>Clypeola jonthlaspi</i>	Common Disk Cress
59	<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sea-rocket
60	<i>Erucaria hispanica</i>	Spanish Pink Mustard
61	<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge Mustard

	Campanulaceae	
62	Campanula rhodensis	Small Rhodian Bellflower
63	Campanula hagielia	Large Rhodian Bellflower
64	Legousia pentagonia	Large Venus' looking-glass
	Caryophyllaceae	
65	Dianthus crinitus	Long-haired Pink
66	Silene dichotoma	Forked Catchfly
67	Silene gallica	Small-flowered Catchfly
68	Silene papillosa	Warty Catchfly
69	Gypsophila confertifolia	Rhodian Gypsophila
70	Petrorhagia dubia	Hairy Pink
71	Paronychia echinulata	Eurasian Nailwort
	Cistaceae	
72	Fumana arabica	Arabian Rockrose
73	Fumana thymifolia	Thyme-leaved Needle-Rockrose
74	Tuberaria guttata	Spotted Sand-Rockrose
75	Cistus creticus	Grey Rockrose
76	Cistus parviflorus	Small-flowered Rockrose
77	Cistus salviifolius	Sage-leaved Rockrose
	Convolvulaceae	
78	Convolvulus althaeoides	Mallow-leaved Bindweed
	Cytinaceae	
79	Cytinus hypocistis ssp. clusii	Yellow Cytinus
	Dipsacaceae	
80	Knautia integrifolia	Urville's Widowflower
81	Pterocephalus brevis	
	Ericaceae	
82	Arbutus andrachne	Eastern Strawberry-tree
	Euphorbiaceae	
83	Euphorbia acanthothamnos	Greek Spiny Spurge
	Fabaceae	
84	Astragalus austroaegaeus	South Aegaeon Milkvetch
85	Astragalus spruneri	Spruner's Milkvetch
86	Bituminaria bituminosa	Pitch Trefoil
87	Coronilla scorpioides	Scorpion Crown Vetch
88	Ebenus sibthorpii	<b>Sibthorpe's Ebony</b>
89	Genista acanthoclada	Thorny Broom
90	Hymenocarpus circinatus	Disk Trefoil
91	Lathyrus annuus	Fodder Pea
92	Lathyrus cicera	Red Vetchling
93	Lathyrus blepharicarpos	Ciliate Vetchling
94	Lathyrus sp.	?
95	Lathyrus aphaca	Yellow Vetchling

96	<i>Medicago minima</i>	Burr Medick
97	<i>Medicago coronata</i>	Crown Medick
98	<i>Medicago orbicularis</i>	Button Medick
99	<i>Medicago disciformis</i>	Disk Medick
100	<i>Ononis hispanica</i>	Spanish Restharrow
101	<i>Onobrychis gracilis</i>	Slender Sainfoin
102	<i>Scorpiurus muricatus</i>	Prickly Scorpion's Tail
103	<i>Securigera cretica</i>	Cretan Crown-vetch
104	<i>Securigera securidaca</i>	Crown-vetch sp.
105	<i>Trifolium angustifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved Clover
106	<i>Trifolium argutum</i>	Sharp-tooth Clover
107	<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Hop Clover
108	<i>Trifolium clypeatum</i>	Shield Clover
109	<i>Trifolium grandiflorum</i>	Large-flower Hop Clover
110	<i>Trifolium pilulare</i>	Cotton Clover
111	<i>Trifolium scabrum</i>	Rough Clover
112	<i>Trigonella monspeliaca</i>	Hairy Trigonella
113	<i>Vicia hybrida</i>	Hairy Yellow-vetch
114	<i>Vicia villosa</i>	Woollyseed Fodder Vetch
	Geraniaceae	
115	<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	Shining Crane's-bill
116	<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill
117	<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved Crane's-bill
118	<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	Little-robin
119	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	<b>Common Stork's-bill</b>
120	<i>Erodium gruinum</i>	Long-beaked Stork's-bill
121	<i>Erodium laciniatum</i>	Cut-leaved Storkbill
	Lamiaceae	
122	<i>Ajuga chamaepitys</i>	Ground-pine
123	<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	Henbit Dead-nettle
124	<i>Lavandula stoechas</i>	French Lavender
125	<i>Prasium majus</i>	White Hedge-nettle
126	<i>Salvia fruticosa</i>	Greek Sage
127	<i>Salvia viridis</i>	Annual Clary
128	<i>Satureja thymbra</i>	Roman Hyssop
129	<i>Teucrium brevifolium</i>	Shortleaf Germander
	Linaceae	
130	<i>Linum bienne</i>	Pale Flax
131	<i>Linum virgultorum</i>	Bushy Flax
	Oxalidaceae	
132	<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda buttercup
	Paeoniaceae	
133	<i>Paeonia clusii</i> ssp. <i>rhodia</i>	Rhodian Peony

	Papaveraceae	
134	Papaver rhoeas	Common Poppy
135	Papaver hybridum	Rough Poppy
	Plantaginaceae	
136	Plantago afra	Glandular Plantain
137	Plantago cretica	Cretan Plantain
	Platanaceae	
138	Platanus orientalis	Oriental Plane
	Polygonaceae	
139	Rumex bucephalophorus	Horned Dock
140	Rumex tuberosus	Cretan Dock
	Primulaceae	
141	Anagallis arvensis	Scarlet Pimpernel (+var. blue)
142	Cyclamen rhodium	Rhodes Cyclamen
	Ranunculaceae	
143	Anemone blanda	Balkan Anemone
144	Anemone coronaria	Crown Anemone
145	Clematis sp,	
146	Ranunculus creticus	Cretan Buttercup
	Rosaceae	
147	Crataegus orientalis	Oriental Hawthorn
	Rubiaceae	
148	Sherardia arvensis	Blue Fieldmadder
149	Valantia hispida	Spiny Valantia
	Rutaceae	
150	Ruta chalepensis	Fringed Rue
	Santalaceae	
151	Osyris alba	White Osyris
	Scrophulariaceae	
152	Antirrhinum orontium	Small Snapdragon
153	Bellardia trixago	Mediterranean Linseed
154	Linaria pelisseriana	Jersey Toadflax
155	Orobanche ramosa	Branching Broomrape
156	Orobanche minor	Common Broomrape
157	Parentucellia latifolia	Red Bartsia
	Valerianaceae	
158	Valerianella vesicaria	Bladder Corn Salad
159	Valerianella sp.	?

Birds									
	Scientific	Common name	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4	day 5	day 6	day 7
1	Otus scops	Scops Owl		✓					
2	Upupa epops	Hoopoe							✓
3	Fulica atra	Coot			✓				
4	Tachybaptus ruficollis	Little Grebe			✓				
5	Podiceps cristatus	Great Crested Grebe			✓				
6	Galerida cristata	Crested Lark						✓	
7	Calandrella brachydactyla	Short-toed Lark				✓			
8	Saxicola rubicola	Stonechat							✓
9	Hirundo rusticola	Swallow		✓				✓	
10	Cecropis daurica	Red-rumped Swallow					✓		
11	Apus apus	Swift						✓	
12	Ptyonoprogne rupestris	Crag Martin		✓				✓	
13	Lanius senator	Woodchat Shrike					✓		
14	Sylvia melanocephala	Sardinian Warbler			✓♪			✓	
15	Cettia cetti	<b>Cetti's Warbler</b>			♪				
16	Acrocephalus schoenobaenus	SedgeWarbler						✓	
17	Fringilla coelebs	Chaffinch	✓♪	✓	♪				
18	Serin	Serinus serinus	✓						
19	Passer hispaniolensis	Spanish Sparrow					✓		
20	Passer domesticus	House Sparrow		✓					
21	Emberiza calandra	Corn Bunting			✓		✓	✓	
22	Emberiza caesia	<b>Crezschmar's Bunting</b>					✓		
23	Buteo buteo	Common Buzzard			✓♪			✓	✓
24	Circaetus gallicus	Short-toed Eagle					✓		
25	Hieraaetus pennatus	Booted Eagle			✓			✓	
26	Falco Tinnunculus	Kestrel			✓		✓	✓	✓
27	Turdus merula	Blackbird	✓	✓	✓				
28	Cyanistes caeruleus	Blue Tit		✓	✓				
29	Corvus corax	Raven			✓				✓
30	Corvus cornix	Hooded Crow		✓			✓	✓	
31	Garrulus glandarius ssp. atricapillus	Jay		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
32	Clamator glandarius	Great-spotted Cuckoo						✓	
33	Merops persicus	Blue cheeked Bee- eater						✓	
34	Cuculus canorus	Cuckoo							✓
35	Burhinus oedicnemus	Stone Curlew						♪	
36	Troglodytes troglodytes	Wren							✓
37	Oenanthe hispanica	Black-eared Wheatear				✓			
38	Phalacrocorax carbo	Cormorant					✓		
39	Larus michahellis	Yellow-legged Gull				✓	✓	✓	

	Scientific	Common name	day 1	day 2	day 3	day 4	day 5	day 6	day 7
40	Podiceps cristatus	Great Crested Grebe			✓				
41	Tachybaptus ruficollis	Little Grebe			✓				
42	Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard			✓			✓	
43	Fulica atra	Eurasian Coot			✓			✓	
44	Athene noctua	Little Owl					♪	♪	♪
Butterflies									
	Scientific	Common name							
1	Zerynthia cerisy	Eastern Festoon		✓					✓
2	Aporia crataegi	Black-veined White							✓
3	Gonepteryx cleopatra	Cleopatra	✓						
4	Vanessa cardui	Painted Lady		✓				✓	✓
5	Colias crocea	Clouded Yellow		✓					✓
6	Pieris brassicae	Large White			✓			✓	
7	Lycaena phlaeas	Small copper	✓	✓					
8	Lycaena thersammon	Lesser Fiery Copper						✓	
9	Polyommatus icarus	Common Blue						✓	
10	Lampides boeticus	Long-tailed blue					✓	✓	✓
11	Glaucopteryx alexis	Green Underside		✓		✓	✓	✓	
12	Callophrys rubi	Green Hairstreak		✓					
13	Gegenes pumilio	Pygmy skipper						✓	
14	Iphiclidides podalirius	Swallowtail			✓			✓	
15	Papilio machaon	Scarce Swallowtail			✓				
Reptiles and amphibians									
	Scientific	Common name							
1	Anatololacerta oertzeni	<b>Oertzen's Rock Lizard</b>		✓					
2	Laudakia stellio	Starred Agama		✓					
3	Lacerta trilineata	Balkan Green Lizard			✓				
4	Coluber numifer	Coin Snake	dead on road, day 5 and day 6						
5	Pelophylax cerigensis	Karpathos Frog			✓				
Dragonflies and other wildlife									
1	Sympetrum fonscolombii	Red-veined Darter							
2	Crocothemis erythraea	Broad Scarlet							
3	Calopteryx virgo	Beautiful Demoiselle							
4	Orthetrum taeniolatum	Small Skimmer							
5	Orthetrum cancellatum	Black-tailed Skimmer							
6	Ladigesocypris ghigii	Gizani							
7	Mesobuthus gibbosus	Scorpion sp.							
8	Utetheisa pulchella	Crimson Speckled							
9	Synema globosum	Napoleon Spider							
10	Misumena vatia	Crab Spider							

# Gallery



Ophrys calypsus © Diane



Ophrys attaviria © Diane



Ophrys regis-ferdinandii © Diane



Ophrys oreas © Diane



*Anchusa azurea* © Greenwings



*Campanula rhodensis* © Yiannis



*Ophrys candica* © Yiannis



*Limodorum abortivum* © Diane



Ebenus sibthorpii © Yiannis



Gladiolus © Gill



Onobrychis gracilis © Yiannis



Muscari neglectum © Yiannis



*Ophrys reinholdii* © Jane



*Ophrys blitopertha* © Yiannis



*Ophrys dodekanensis* © Jane



*Anacamptis fragrans* © Yiannis



*Orchis morio* © Yiannis



*Paeonia clusii* ssp. *rhodia* © Yiannis



*Scilla hyacinthoides* © Yiannis



*Fritillaria rhodia* © Yiannis



*Lavandula stoechas* © Diane

*Cyclamen rhodium* © Yiannis



*Gynandris sisyrinchium* © Yiannis



*Aristolochia parviflora* © Yiannis



Crickets on Cistus © Jane



Asphodelus © Greenwings



Alkana tinctoria © Greenwings



Alkanna tinctoria © Yiannis



Dianthus crinitus © Yiannis



Clouded Yellow © Greenwings



Green Hairstreak © Yiannis



Lesser Fiery Copper © Greenwings



Anacamptis papilionacea © Diane



Ophrys corniculata © Diane



Orchis anatolica © Diane



Ophrys reinholdii © Diane



Neotinea maculata © Diane



Ophrys rhodia © Diane



Ophrys calypsus © Diane



Crab Spider © Diane



Napoleon Spider © Diane



Green Underside Blue © Diane



Clouded Yellow © Diane



Crimson Speckled © Diane



Swallowtail larva © Diane



Black-veined White pupa © Diane



Eastern Dappled White © Diane

Starred Agama © Peter



Juvenile Green Lizard © Peter





Black-tailed Skimmer © Diane



Red-veined Darter (f) © Diane



Starred Agama © Diane



Pygmy Skipper © Diane



Oertzen's Lizard © Diane



Starred Agama © Diane



Oertzen's Rock Lizard © Diane



Karpathos Frog © Peter



*Atractylis cancellata* © Diane



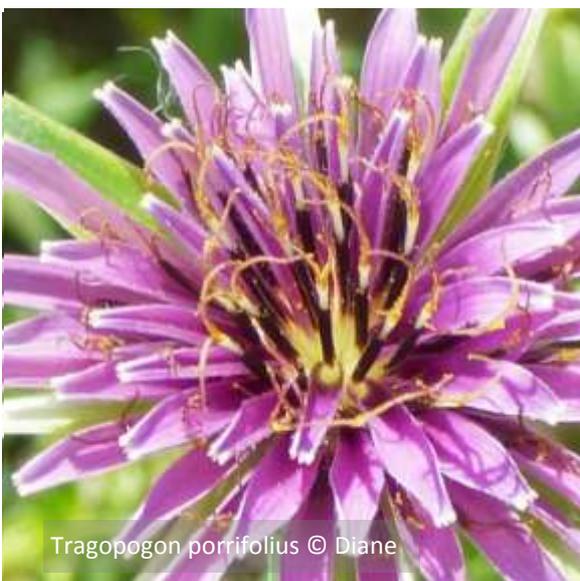
*Centaurea* sp. © Diane



*Centaurea lactucifolia* © Diane



*Ruta chalepensis* © Diane



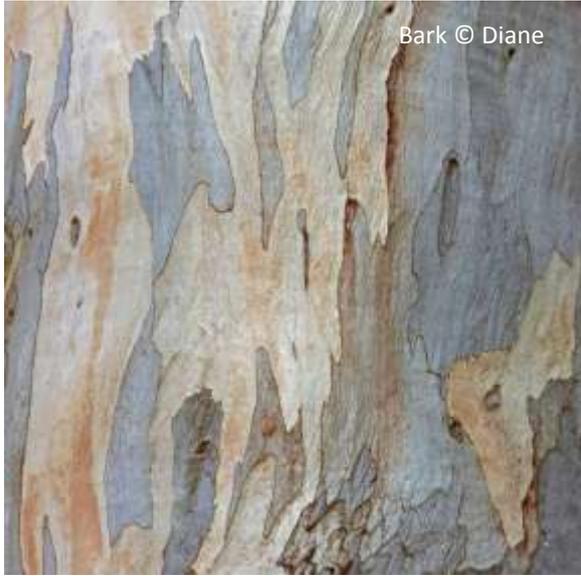
*Tragopogon porrifolius* © Diane



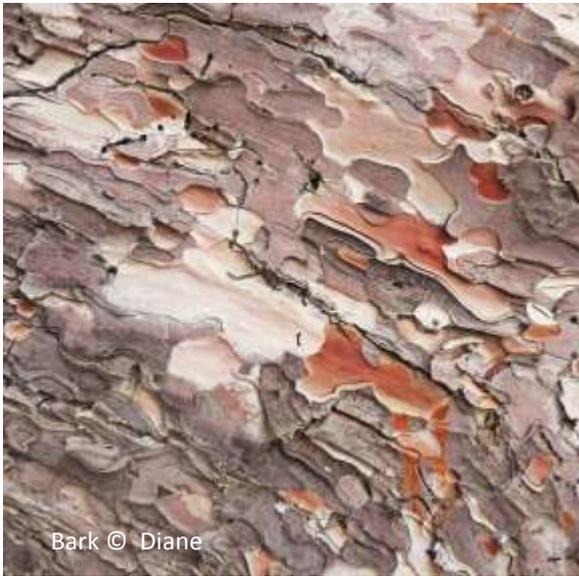
*Tamarix* sp. © Diane



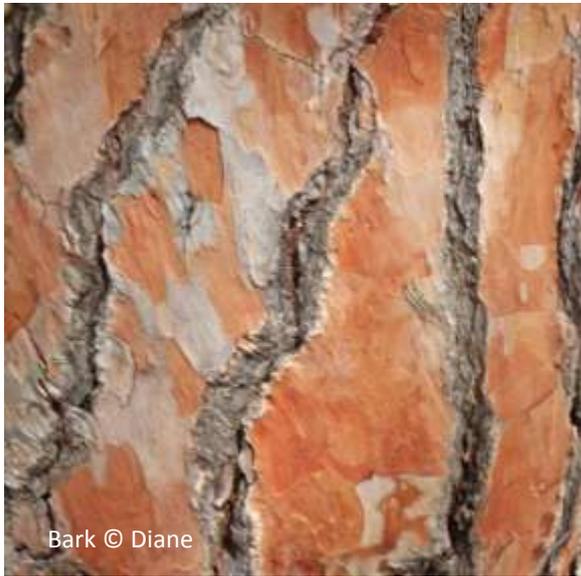
Bark © Diane



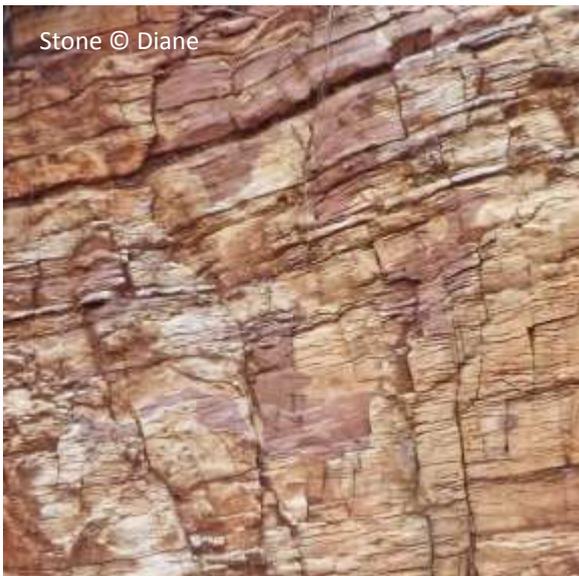
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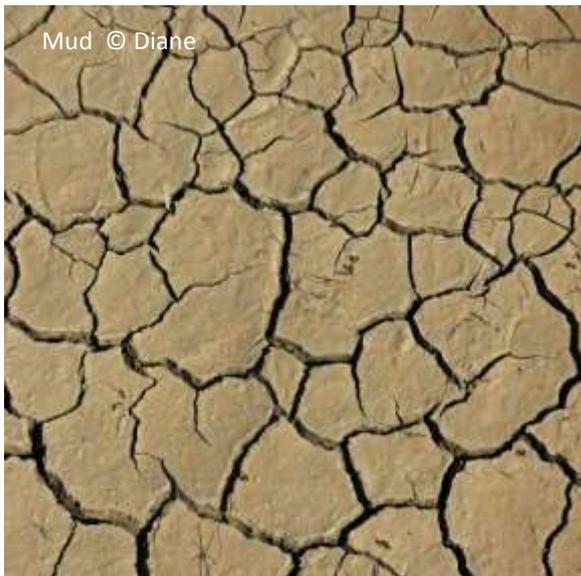
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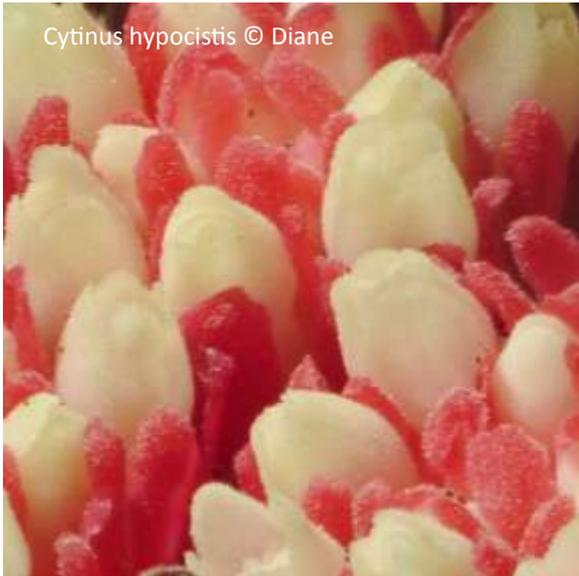
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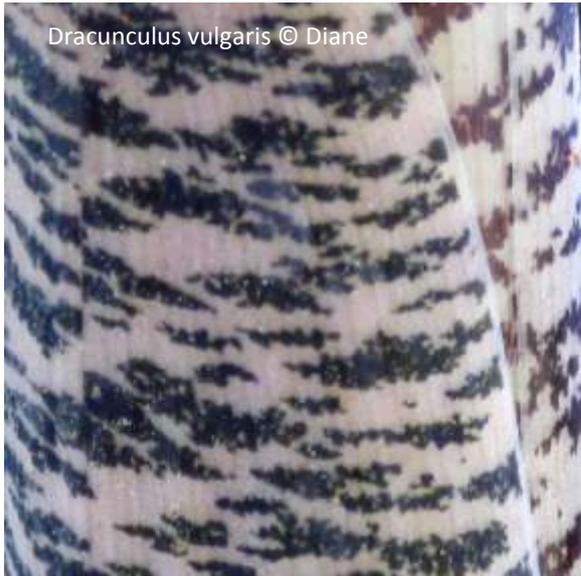
Stone © Diane



Mud © Diane



*Cytinus hypocistis* © Diane



*Dracunculus vulgaris* © Diane



*Centaurea lactucifolia* © Diane



*Gelbionaris coronaria* © Diane



*Paeonia clusii* ssp. *rhodia* © Diane



*Muscari comosum* © Diane



Glebionaris bi-coloured © Diane



Glebionaris yellow form © Diane



Cytinus hypocistis ssp. clusii © Diane





Cistus salvifolius © Diane



Cistus salvifolius © Diane



*Cistus parviflora* © Diane



*Rumex tuberosus* © Diane



*Ruta chalepensis* © Diane

Monolithos © Diane



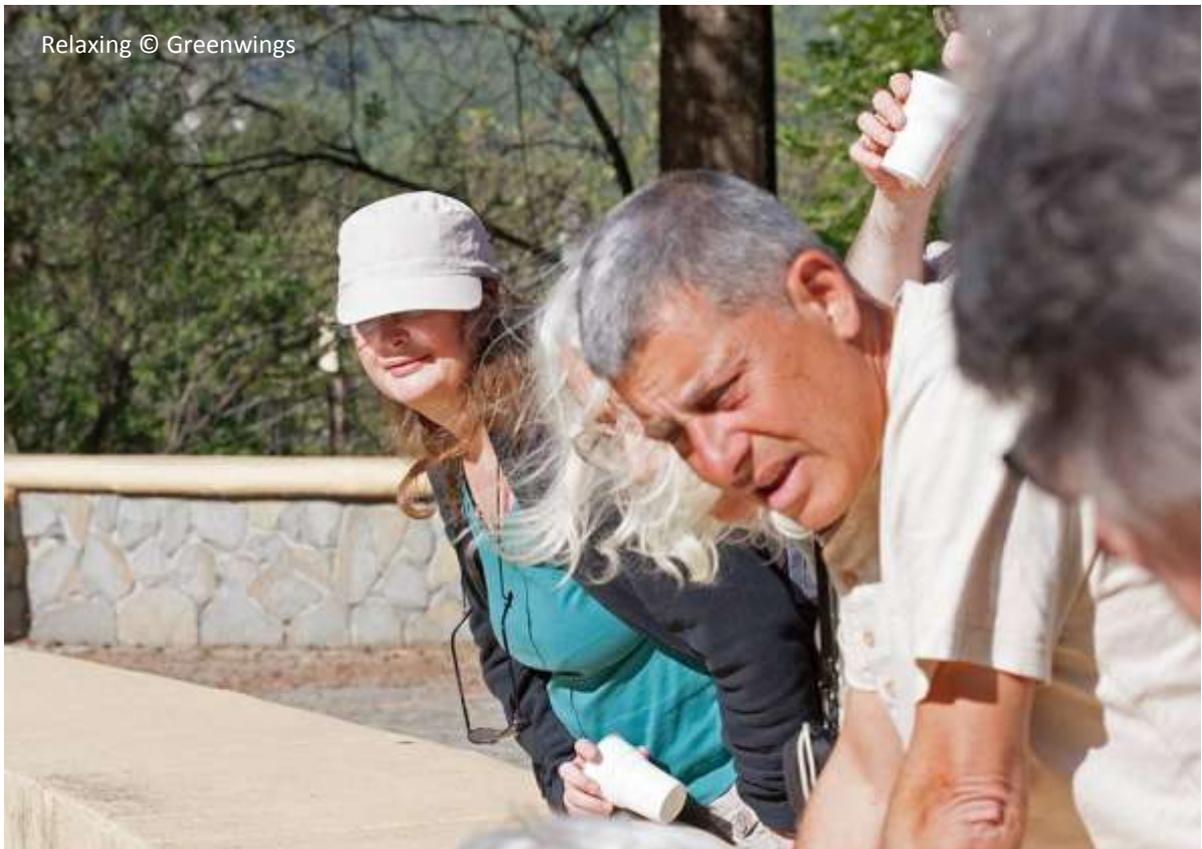
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