Spain - Spring Flowers of Western Andalucia

Naturetrek Tour Report

15 - 22 March 2017



Clematis cirrhosa





Lathyrus tingitanus



Hyacinthoides hispanica

Report & photos by Paul Harmes



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Tour Participants: Paul Harmes (leader) and seven Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Wednesday 15th March

Fly London, Manchester and Edinburgh to Malaga – Transfer to Ronda

Two tour group members, Wendy and David, met with Paul at Gatwick Airport's North Terminal, for the Easyjet flight, EZY8605, to Malaga. Upon our arrival, we met up with Lynne, June, Christine, Marion and Ian, who had arrived on earlier fights from Manchester and Edinburgh, before making our way to our hire vehicle, in the multi-storey car park.

We left Malaga airport in a north-westerly direction, past the cargo area and via the perimeter road towards El Peron, where we took the A7052 for several miles before joining the A357 Campilos road. We continued north-west, passing the 'white village' of Ardales on our left, and on to the junction with the A367, the Ronda road. Along the way, Barn Swallows, Crested Larks and Spotless Starlings were seen. After a light snack at the El Meson de Diego venta, we continued on the A367 south, through Cuevas del Becerro, to the outskirts of Ronda where we joined the A366 El Burgo road north-east for about four kilometres to our final destination, the Finca La Guzmana, our accommodation for the week. On arrival, we were met by Peter McLeod, our host, who quickly settled us into our rooms before supplying tea, coffee and biscuits.

At 7.30pm, we met in the kitchen, where Peter outlined details of the Finca and the surrounding area and Paul gave a brief outline of the plans for the next day, before Peter served a light dinner.

Day 2

Thursday 16th March

Grazalema - Sierra del Pinar - Gargante Verde

After a good breakfast, we drove down to Ronda and off on the Seville road towards the village of Grazalema. Along the way we recorded Corn Bunting and Goldfinch and stopped to watch some low-flying Griffon Vultures, struggling to gain height. We made a second brief stop on a broad verge to the south of Grazalema, on the road to Ubrique. Approaching this, we saw a Black Redstart on a fence. At the roadside, we recorded our first native Daffodil, *Narcissus flavus*, together with *Erodium primulaceum* (a Stork's-bill) and the dead skeletons of last year's spikes of *Echium boissieri* (Boissier's Viper's-bugloss). An adjacent cliff face produced several Red-billed Choughs.

Retracing our steps, we made our way through Grazalema and onwards a short distance from the town, to the car park at the start of our proposed walk in the Sierra del Pinar. As we arrived, a small group of Spanish Ibex were seen on a bank. There were nine females and young. After parking, some group members went to photograph the Ibex, and we also discovered a solitary male.

We now began to ascend the path, finding several emerging Romulea bulbocodium (Sand Crocus), Orchis olbiensis (an Early Purple Orchid), and the young leaves of Ptilostemon hispanicus (Spanish Thistle). The path rose through mixed Pinus pinaster (Maritime Pine) and Pinus halepensis (Aleppo Pine) forest, mixed with Quercus species (Oaks). As we went, we added Asphodelus albus (White Asphodel), together with Great Tit, Firecrest and Wren.

After about 1.5 kilometres, we emerged from the forest onto an open saddle, with splendid views in all directions. Exploration of an area of broken limestone boulders, adjacent to the path, revealed the diminutive yellow Violet, *Viola demetrei, Berberis hispanicus* (Spanish Barberry) and *Draba hispanica* (Spanish Whitlow-grass). On the northern side of the ridge, towards the Cerro de San Cristobel, we could clearly see one of only two relic population remnants of *Abies pinsapo* (Spanish Fir) forest. After our descent and lunch, during which Rock Bunting and Black Redstart were seen, we drove on up and over the Puerto de las Palomas' (Pass of the Doves), where we began the descent towards Zahara, stopping in the car park of our second location, the 'Garganta Verde'. Here we saw *Narcissus assoanus* (Rush-leaved Jonquil) and more *Orchis olbiensis* on the road verge. Setting off along the track, we found *Ophrys fusca* subsp. *fusca* (Sombre Bee Orchid), *Ulex parviflorus* (Small-flowered Gorse), *Ceratonia siliqua* (Carob) and *Myrtis communis* (Myrtle). Our objective was a viewpoint overlooking the gorge where, on the cliffs, there is a large population of Griffon Vultures, two of which we saw at a nest. *Vinca difformis* (Intermediate Periwinkle), *Olea europaea* (Wild Olive), *Paronychia capitata*, the leaves of *Arisarum vulgare* (Friar's Cowl) and *Juniperus phoenicea* (Phoenician Juniper) were also added.

Continuing down towards the hilltop village of Zahara, we made our final stop of the day on a verge bank where we found more *Vinca difformis* (Intermediate Periwinkle) along with *Himantoglossum robertianum* (Giant Orchid), *Ophrys bombyliflora* (Bumblebee Orchid) and *Rosmarinus officinalis* (Rosemary).

From here, we set off back towards Ronda and the Finca in time for a splendid dinner, cooked by Peter.

Day 3

Friday 17th March

El Burgo - Ardales - El Chorro

Today was bright but with a chilly wind, as we travelled in the opposite direction towards the village of El Burgo. We first passed over the Puerto del Vienta (Pass of the Wind), stopping a couple of kilometres to the east to see Iris planifolia (Flat-leaved Iris). A good number of plants were found, together with Viola demetrei and several clumps of the endemic Biscutella frutescens (Perennial Buckler Mustard). At the base of some rocks, there was Umbilicus rupestris (Navelwort) and some Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn) bushes which had been infested with Viscum cruciatum (Red-berried Mistletoe). A few Red-billed Choughs were seen patrolling a distant cliff face, and Southern Grey Shrike was also recorded.

Our second stop of the morning was at the Mirador del Guarda Forestal. Here we saw a small group of Spanish Ibex, on the rocks below the mirador. The plants here included *Hyacinthoides hispanicus* (Spanish Bluebell), *Aristolochia baetica* (a Birthwort), *Clematis cirrhosa* (Virgin's Bower) and *Asphodelus albus* (White Asphodel).

Continuing onwards, we made our way through El Burgo before turning right and on towards Ardales. Along the way, Paul pointed out *Fraxinus angustifolius* (Narrow-leaved Ash). In Ardales, we took the road along the eastern shore of the Embalse del Conde de Guadalhorce reservoir, to our main objective, the 'Mirador de las Embalsas', where three reservoirs meet. Here we parked. An exploration of the *Pinus halepensis* (Aleppo Pine) woodland revealed *Ophrys speculum* (Mirror Orchid), the fruiting heads of *Narcissus cantabricus* (White Hooppetticoat Daffodil), *Cistus albidus* (Grey-leaved Cistus) and *Muscari neglectum* (Grape Hyacinth). Birds included Great Tit, Blackbird, Serin, Robin and Chaffinch.

After our picnic lunch, we walked down towards the road, exploring the sandstone verges, finding Rupicapnos africana, Ranunculus spicatus subsp. blepharicarpos (Rock Buttercup), Chaenorhinum villosum, Ophrys tenthredinifera (Sawfly Orchid), Orchis anthropophora (Man Orchid), Muscari neglectum (Grape Hyacinth), Dipcadi serotina (Brown Bluebell) and Reseda suffruticosa (a Mignonette).

From here we made our way through the gorge to a point just west of El Chorro. Here we explored the verges overlooked by El Caminito del Rey (The King's Little Pathway), finding *Adiantum capillus-veneris* (Maidenhair Fern), *Cistus salvifolius* (Sage-leaved Cistus) and *Samolus valerandi* (Brookweed). At this point we made our way to a small café for refreshments. Whilst enjoying our drinks we noted soaring Griffon Vultures.

It was now time to make our way back to Ronda, in time to freshen up for dinner.

Day 4

Saturday 18th March

Sierra de las Nieves - Ronda

A clear, sunny day greeted us and, after breakfast, we headed off in a south-easterly direction, towards San Pedro, and into the Sierra de las Nieves National Park. Our objective was the Los Quejigales recreation area, situated some eight kilometres from the road. The park road took us initially through *Quercus* woodland and shrubby scrub below, then on up through a mixture of *Pinus halepensis* and *Pinus pinaster* (Aleppo and Maritime Pine) woodland, before emerging above the tree line into an exposed limestone area. It was in this latter habitat that we made our first stop, finding *Narcissus assoanus* (Rush-leaved Jonquil), *Orchis olbiensis* (an Early Purple Orchid), *Neotinea tridentata* subsp. *conica* (a Toothed Orchid), and *Gagea foliosa* (a Yellow Star of Bethlehem). Birds here were rather quiet, but Chaffinch were heard.

Our second stop was close to the Area Recreativa Los Quejigales. This is a wet grassy area which has a good colony of *Narcissus hispanicus* (Long-spathed Daffodil), scattered among small bushes of *Crataegus monogyna* (Hawthorn), festooned with *Viscum cruciatum* (Red-berried Mistletoe). We also noted Common Chaffinch and Blackbird.

Parking the vehicles at Los Quejigales, we set off for a walk on a path that would eventually lead to the Puerto de los Pilones. We began in *Pinus pinaster* (Maritime Pine) and *Pinus halepensis* (Aleppo Pine) woodland. Also present were *Rubia peregrina* (Wild Madder), *Daphne laureola* (Spurge Laurel) and *Narcissus hispanicus* (Long-spathed Daffodil). After a gentle climb of about 300 metres, we came to the tree line, where occasional *Abies pinsapo* (Spanish Fir) were scattered. Above this, where the path began to climb more steeply, the second native population of this tree remains. Close by we found *Lavandula lanata* (Woolly Lavender), a local endemic, *Helichrysum stoechas* (Curry Plant) and *Quercus ilex* (Holm Oak). After our descent, we took our lunch in the Los Quejigales picnic site.

After lunch, we drove back to Ronda, parking in the car park on the north side of the town. We then walked down though the pedestrian precinct to the cliff-edge walk. Crag Martin, Blue Rock Thrush and Red-billed Chough were all seen, as well as *Smyrnium olusatrum* (Alexanders), *Moricandia moricandioides* (Purple Cabbage), *Antirrhinum barrelieri* (a Snapdragon) and *Echium vulgare* (Viper's-bugloss).

At this point, Paul left us to explore Ronda at our leisure, before collecting us from a pre-arranged spot to return to the Finca for dinner.

Day 5

Sunday 19th March

El Torcal – Laguna Dulce – Tajo del Molino

A clear sunny morning dawned and, leaving Finca La Guzmana early, we took the road towards Campillos. Numerous Crested Larks were seen as we went. When we passed through the small village of Teba, and turned east joining the main Malaga to Antequera road and continuing eastwards, via Campillos. Passing through Antequera, we made our way up to the summit of El Torcal, the highest point in the El Torcal de Antequera National Park, and parked by the visitor centre. Rock Bunting, Robin and Black Redstart were very active, as we enjoyed morning coffee. We now set off to explore the 'Karst' limestone structures. We walked one of the circular tracks, finding *Euphorbia characias* subsp. *characias* (Mediterranean Spurge) and several clumps of the endemic *Linaria anticaria* (a Toadflax), sadly not yet flowering. We also saw the leaves of *Saxifraga biternata* (El Torcal Saxifrage), another local endemic, *Himantoglossum robertianum* (Giant Orchid) and *Ophrys tenthredinifera* (Sawfly Orchid). In addition, we also saw Griffon Vulture and Blackbird, Common Chiffchaff, Subalpine Warbler and Sardinian Warbler.

The warm sunshine had brought out large numbers of visitors, so Paul took the decision to find an alternative location for lunch. Beginning our journey back towards Ronda, we made a stop at Laguna Dulce, near Campillos. The lake, unfortunately, had dried up, so birdlife was restricted to Goldfinch, Corn Bunting and Cetti's Warbler. On the track verge we found *Nonea vesicaria* (Nonea), *Calendula suffruticosa* and *Platycapnos spicatus*, as well as Painted Lady, Red Admiral, Western Dappled White and Small White butterflies.

Our last stop of the day was the cutting, hillside and river gorge at Tajo del Molino. The roadside had a number of clumps of the white *Antirrhinum graniticum* (a Snapdragon) and *Asphodelus fistulosus* (Small Asphodel), whilst the hillsides produced *Moraea sisyrinchium* (Barbary Nut), *Ophrys speculum* (Mirror Orchid) and *Cynoglossum clandestinum* (a Hound's-tongue). We also found Provence Hairstreak and Spanish Festoon butterflies. The gorge had Redbilled Chough, Crag Martin, Blackcap and Grey Wagtail, and we also saw our first Common Swifts of the week.

Day 6

Monday 20th March

Montejague – Hidden Valley - Cerro de Tavizna – Cueva de la Pileta

After breakfast, we left the Finca in warming sunshine and drove down towards Ronda, taking the Seville road and stopping just west of the city on a track leading to Puerta de las Muelas. Here we found *Anacamptis collina* (Fan-lipped Orchid) and emerging *Ophrys lutea* (Yellow Bee Orchid), before continuing westwards, and turning off the main road towards Montejaque.

We made our next stop below the Cerro de Tavizna, to explore a patch of scrub, and a rocky verge. These produced *Orchis olbiensis* (an Early Purple Orchid), *Vinca difformis* (Intermediate Periwinkle), *Saxifraga granulata* (Meadow Saxifrage), *Linaria aeruginea* (a Toadflax), *Anagyris foetida* (Bean Trefoil) and *Muscari neglectum* (Grape Hyacinth). We also saw Eurasian Crag Martin, Griffon Vulture and Red-billed Chough.

Moving on to the small town of Montejaque, we took a back road and made our way up to Los Llanos de Libar, in the Sierra de Montalata. A stop by a high cliff produced *Linaria tristis*, *Saxifraga bourgaeana* (a Saxifrage), *Ornithogalum reverchonii* (a Star of Bethlehem), *Scrophularia sambucifolia* (Elder-leaved Figwort) and *Fedia cornucopiae* (Fedia). Eurasian Crag Martin, Great Tit and Griffon Vultures were also seen. It was a good morning for butterflies, despite the breeze, and several were recorded, including Small Copper, Small Heath, Western Dappled White and Clouded Yellow. The group now began to walk up the valley, admiring the Karst limestone mountains as they went. Continuing to scan the sky, it was not long before Red-billed Chough, Greenfinch, Stonechat, Chaffinch, Rock Bunting, a pair of Blue Rock Thrushes and more Griffon Vultures were seen. As we walked, we recorded *Orchis olbiensis* (an Early Purple Orchid), *Erodium primulaceum* (a Stork's-bill) and *Viscum cruciatum* (Red-berried Mistletoe). At the top of the track, Paul parked the bus, we set up our picnic, during which Serin, Great Tit, Blackbird and Barn Swallow were seen, together with Cleopatra and Provence Hairstreak butterflies.

After our picnic, we set off to walk into the 'Hidden Valley, immediately finding *Narcissus cuatrecasasii* (Rock Jonquil). A little further in we saw *Fritillaria lusitanica* (Portuguese Fritillary). This valley has a good population of *Paeonia broteroi* (Peony). However, all the plants we found were in bud and none were in flower.

Returning to the vehicle, we made our descent, stopping along the way to see a pair of Black Wheatears. Further on, we added Sardinian Warbler, and a stand of *Antirrhinum barrelieri, Moraea sisyrinchium* (Barbary Nut) and *Lathyrus clymenum* (a Pea).

Leaving the valley, we made our way to Benaojan, and the car park at the 'Cueva de la Pileta' caves. Here we saw Blackcap, Sardinian Warbler and Great Tit, as well as *Calycotome villosa* (Prickly Broom) and *Aphyllanthes monspeliensis* (Blue Aphyllanthes), before returning to the Finca.

Day 7

Tuesday 21st March

Grazalema - Zahara de la Sierra

Today, we returned to the Grazalema area. The day had dawned cloudy as we headed off. Along the way we saw Common Buzzard and Crested Lark. We made two stops on the road to the east of Grazalema. At the first we found Lavandula stoechas subsp. stoechas (French Lavender), Teucrium fruticans (Shrub Germander), Cistus albidus (Grey-leaved Cistus), Quercus suber (Cork Oak) and Quercus faginea (Beech-leaved Oak). We also found a small stand of Cephalanthera longifolia (Sword-leaved Helleborine). The second stop yielded Cistus laurifolia (Laurel-leaved Cistus) and Phillyraea latifolia.

On the outskirts of Grazalema, we parked on the south side of the village. The plan was to explore the broad road verges. A few Red-billed Chough were seen together with Serin, Sardinian Warbler and the ubiquitous Griffon Vultures. Along the verge, we found *Scrophularia sambucifolia* (Elder-leaved Figwort), *Narcissus papyraceus* (Paper-white Daffodil), *Ophrys tenthredinifera* (Sawfly Orchid) and *Cerinthe major* var. *purpurescens* (Greater Honeywort). The boulder-strewn fields had Blackcap, Serin and Spotless Starlings. From here, we went through Grazalema and on up over the Puerto de las Palomas (Pass of the Doves), and on to the Mirador de las Acebuches. Here we found *Fritillaria lusitanica* (Portuguese Fritillary), *Anemone palmata* and *Astragalus lusitanicus* (a Milk-vetch). We now carried on north, to a fairly sheltered picnic spot for lunch.

After eating, our next stop was the village of Zahara de la Sierra, where we parked at the top of the town. Here we found the endemic *Erodium tordylioides* (a Stork's-bill), *Centaurea clementei* (Clemente's Knapweed) and *Linaria platycalyx* (a Toadflax), as well as *Sedum mucizonia*. In the town centre, we enjoyed some refreshments. Whilst seated outside the cafe, we enjoyed the aerial displays of Griffon Vultures and a solitary Golden Eagle.

As we were leaving, the cliffs on the east side of the town produced *Hyoscyamus albus* (White Henbane), before we moved on to our next stop.

Our final stop of the day was on a piece of rough pasture at Las Mezas. *Ophrys speculum* (Mirror Orchid), *Urtica urens* (Small Nettle), a good colony of *Himantoglossum robertianum* (Giant Orchid), *Ophrys lutea* (Yellow Bee Orchid), *Ophrys omigaifera* (Omega Orchid) and *Orchis italica* (Naked Man Orchid) were all recorded.

We now re-joined the vehicle for the journey back to the Finca, in time to pack before dinner.

Day 8

Wednesday 22nd March

Transfer from Ronda to Malaga – Fly to UK

After an early breakfast, we said out farewells to Peter and thanked him for a wonderful stay in this beautiful area. We set off, to clearing skies, and headed for Malaga Airport, making it in good time for our flights back to the UK.

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The Group

Species Lists

Plants (* indicates a plant is endemic; [] = Indicates a plant is introduced/planted)

Nomenclature contained within this list follows the taxonomic amendments, based on DNA analysis, made by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and the Missouri Botanic Garden, and following The Plant List, an internationally accepted list of vascular plant families, published and maintained by these two Institutions.

Scientific name Common name Location

PTERIDOPHYTES FERNS & ALLIES

Leptosporangiate Ferns True Ferns

Aspleniaceae Spleenwort Family

Asplenium ceterach Rustyback Sierra del Pinar

Polypodiaceae Polypody Family

Polypodium cambricum Southern Polypody Mirador Guarda Forestal

Pteridaceae Ribbon Fern Family

Adiantum capillus-venerisMaidenhair FernEl ChorroAnogramma leptophyllaJersey FernPileta Caves

Cheilanthes pteridioides Scented Cheilanthes Mirador Guarda Forestal

Cheilanthes velleaScaly CheilanthesHidden ValleyCryptogramma crispaParsley FernEl Torcal

GYMNOSPERMS CONIFERS

Cupressaceae Juniper Family

[Cupressus macrocarpa]Monterey CypressCommonly Planted[Cupressus sempervirens]Italian CypressCommonly Planted

Juniperus communis Juniper Between Ronda & El Burgo

Juniperus phoenicea subsp. phoenicea Phoenician Juniper Gargante Verde

PinaceaePine FamilyAbies pinsapoSpanish FirSierra del Pinar

Abies pinsapo Spanish Fir Sierra del Pinar

[Cedrus deodara] Deodar Cedar Naturalised in Sierra de las Nievas

Pinus halepensisAleppo PineCommonPinus pinasterMaritime PineCommon

Pinus pinea Stone or Umbrella Pine Near El Chorro

ANGIOSPERMS FLOWERING PLANTS

Pre-dicots Primitive Angiosperms

AristolochiaceaeBirthwort FamilyAristolochia baeticaa BirthwortMirador Guarda Forestal

Aristolochia paucinervis a Birthwort Las Mezas

Eu-dicots True Dicotyledons

Adoxaceae Moschatel Family

Viburnum tinus Laurustinus Above Zahara

Anacardiaceae Sumach Family

Pistacia lentiscus Mastic Bush Gargante Verde

Apiaceae Carrot Family

Berula erectaLesser Water-parsnipEl ChorroBupleurum fruticosumShrubby Hare's-earAbove Grazalema

Bupleurum spinosumSpiny Hare's-earSierra del PinarFerula communisGiant FennelTajo del MolinoFoeniculum vulgareFennelBelow ZaharaScandix pecten-venerisShepherd's NeedleTajo del Molino

Smyrnium olusatrum Alexanders Common

Thapsia garganica Thapsia Mirador Guarda Forestal

Apocynaceae Periwinkle Family

Nerium oleander Oleander Naturalised below Grazalema

Vinca difformis Intermediate Periwinkle Gargante Verde

Araliaceae Ivy Family

Hedera helix agg. Ivy El Torcal

Berberidaceae Barberry Family

Berberis hispanica Spanish Barberry Sierra del Pinar

Boraginaceae Forget-me-not Family

Borago officinalis
Borage
Near Malaga
Cerinthe major var. purpurescens
Greater Honeywort
Below Grazalema

Cynoglossum clandestinum a Hound's-tongue Las Mezas

Echium albicans - Near El Chorro

Echium boissieri Boissier's Viper's-bugloss S of Grazalema
Echium plantagineum Purple Viper's-bugloss Common

Echium vulgareViper's-buglossZaharaLithodora fruticosaShrubby GromwellNear El Chorro

Nonea vesicaria Nonea Laguna Dulce

Pardoglossum (Cynoglossum) cheirifolium a Hound's-tongue Mirador Guarda Forestal

Brassicaceae Cabbage Family

8

Arabis verna Early Rock-cress Above Zahara

Biscutella frutescens* Perennial Buckler Mustard E of Puerto del Viento Capsella bursa-pastoris Shepherd's Purse Finca La Guzmana

Cardamine hirsuta Hairy Bitter-cress El Torcal

Clypeola jonthlaspi Clypeola E of Puerto del Viento

Crambe filiformis Thin Sea-kale Zahara

Draba hispanica Spanish Whitlow-grass Sierra del Pinar (leaves)

Erophila verna subsp. praecoxWhitlow-grassSierra del PinarEruca vesicariaRocketNear El ChorroErysimum cheiriWallflowerN of RondaHornungia petraeaHutchinsiaSierra del Pinar

Iberis sp. Candytuft Near El Chorro

Lobularia maritimaSweet AlisonMirador Guarda ForestalMatthiola incanaHoary StockCliffs, Ronda

Moricandia moricandioides Purple Cabbage Common on Roadsides

Sinapis albaWhite MustardCliffs, RondaSinapis arvensisCharlockLaguna Dulce

Cactaceae Cactus Family

[Opuntia ficus-indica] Barbary Fig or Prickly Pear Very Common

Campanulaceae Bellflower Family

Campanula mollis a Bellflower Zahara

Caprifoliaceae Honeysuckle Family

Centranthus calcitrapaAnnual ValerianZaharaFedia cornucopiaeFediaBelow ZaharaLonicera arboreaTree HoneysuckleSierra de las Nievas

Caryophyllaceae Pink Family

Dianthus sp. a Pink Zahara

Paronychia capitata a Paronychia Gargante Verde

Polycarpon tetraphyllumFour-leaved AllseedZaharaSagina apetalaAnnual PearlwortZahara

Sagina procumbens Procumbent Pearlwort Ronda
Silene colorata a Catchfly Very Common

Silene vulgarisBladder CampionEl TorcalSpergularia marinaLesser Sea SpurreyLaguna Dulce

Stellaria media Chickweed Finca La Guzmana

Cistaceae Rock-rose Family

Cistus albidusGrey-leaved CistusNear El ChorroCistus laurifolius-E of GrazalemaCistus salvifoliusSage-leaved CistusEl Chorro

Helianthemum origanifolium Marjoram-leaved Rock-rose El Chorro

Compositae (Asteraceae) Daisy Family

Anthemis chia-Las MezasBellis sylvestrisSouthern DaisySierra del PinarCalendula arvensisField MarigoldFinca La Guzmana

Calendula suffruticosa-Laguna DulceCarduus pycnocephalusPlymouth ThistleLaguna DulceCarlina corymbsosaFlat-topped Carline ThistleLas Mezas (over)

Centaurea calcitrapa Red Star Thistle Sierra del Pinar

Centaurea clementei* Clemente's Knapweed Zahara
Centaurea pullata - S of Grazalema

Cynara cardunculusCardoonLas Mezas (over)Dittrichia viscosaWoody FleabaneBelow GrazalemaGlebionis coronarium var. discolorCrown DaisyNear Malaga

Glebionis segetum Corn Marigold Tajo del Molino
Helichrysum stoechas Curry Plant Sierra de las Nievas

Hyoseris radiataHyoserisPileta cavesPhagnalon saxatilePhagnalonZahara

Ptilostemon hispanica Spanish Thistle Sierra del Pinar Senecio nevadensis a Ragwort Cerro de Tavizna Sencio vulgare Groundsel Finca La Guzmana Silybum marianum Milk Thistle Gargante Verde Sonchus oleraceus Smooth Sow-thistle Lagoon Dulce Urospermum picroides a Urospermum Near El Chorro

Convolvulaceae Bindweed Family

Convolvulus althaeoides Mallow-leaved Bindweed Cliffs, Ronda

Crassulaceae Stonecrop Family

Crassula tilaeaMossy StonecropTajo del MolinoSedum albumWhite StonecropEl Torcal

Sedum brevifolium Short-leaved Stonecrop Mirador Guarda Forestal

Sedum mucizonia (Mucizonia hispida) Mucizonia Zahara

Sedum sediforme Large Stonecrop Gargante Verde (leaves)

Sedum sexangulareTasteless StonecropEl TorcalUmbilicus rupestrisNavelwortZahara

Cucurbitaceae White Bryony Family

Bryonia dioicaWhite BryonyHidden ValleyEcballium elateriumSquirting CucumberBelow Zahara

Euphorbiaceae Spurge Family

Euphorbia characias subsp. characiasLarge Mediterranean SpurgeEl TorcalEuphorbia exiguaDwarf SpurgeLas MezasEuphorbia helioscopiaSun SpurgeSierra del PinarEuphorbia nicaeensis-Tajo del molinoEuphorbia peplusPetty SpurgeS of Grazalema

Mercurialis annuusAnnual MercuryEl Chorro[Ricinus communis]Castor Oil PlantEl Chorro

Fagaceae Oak & Beech Family

Quercus cocciferaKermes OakSierra del PinarQuercus fagineaBeech-leaved OakE of GrazalemaQuercus ilexHolm oakE of Grazalema

Quercus suber Cork Oak E of Grazalema

Geraniaceae Geranium Family

Erodium cicutariumCommon Stork's-billFinca LA GuzmanaErodium malacoidesMallow-leaved Stork's-billMirador Guada ForestalErodium moschatumMusk Stork's-billFinca La GuzmanaErodium primulaceuma Stork's-billS of Grazalema

Erodium primulaceuma Stork's-billS of GrazalemaErodium recoderi*a Stork's-billMirador Guarda Foresta

Erodium tordylioides* a Stork's-bill Zahara

Geranium lucidumShiny Crane's-billEl TorcalGeranium molleDove's-foot Crane's-billFinca La Guzmana

Geranium purpureum Little Robin Mirador Guarda Forestal

Geranium pyrenaicum

Hedgerow Crane's-bill

Laguna Dulce

Geranium rotundifolium Round-leaved Crane's-bill Mirador Guarda Forestal

Lamiaceae

Ballota pseudodictamnus Lamium amplexicaule Lavandula lanata* Lavandula multifida

Lavandula stoechas subsp. stoechas

Phlomis purpurea Rosmarinus officinalis Salvia verbenaca Stachys circinata

Teucrium fruticans

Teucrium polium agg.

Leguminosae (Fabaceae)

Acacia retinodes Anagyris foetida Anthyllis cystoides

Anthyllis vulneraria subsp. praepropera

Astragalus lusitanicus Bituminaria bituminosa Calycotome villosa Ceratonia siliqua [Cercis siliquastrum] Cytisus baeticus Genista umbellata Lathyrus clymenum Lathyrus sphaericus

Lotus tetragonolobus (T. purpureus)

Medicago polymorpha

Lathyrus tingitanus

Retama (Lygos) monosperma Retama (Lygos) sphaerocarpa

Scorpiurus muricatus Spartium junceum

Tripodion tetraphyllum (Anthyllis tetraphylla)

Ulex parviflorus [Vicia faba]

Vicia sativa subsp. sativa

Vicia vicioides

Malvaceae

Malva sylvestris

Moraceae

Ficus carica

Myrtaceae

[Eucalyptus camaldulensis] [Eucalyptus globulus] Myrtis communis

Dead-nettle Family

Garden Horehound Gargante Verde Henbit Deadnettle Finca LA Guzmana Woolly Lavender Sierra de las Nievas Cut-leaved Lavender Near El Chorro French Lavender FI Chorro

Purple Phlomis Common (leaves) Rosemary Near El Chorro Wild Clary Las Mezas

Mirador Guarda Forestal

Shrub Germander E of Grazalema Sierra del Pinar Felty Germander

Pea Family

Swamp Wattle Roadsides near Malaga Bean Trefoil Cerro de Tavizna Shrub Kidney-vetch Near El Chorro Mediterranean Kidney-vetch Sierra de las Nievas a Milk-vetch Mirador de las Acebuches Pitch Trefoil Hidden Valley (leaves) Prickly Broom Pileta caves

Carob Gargante Verde Judas Tree Planted Hidden Valley

Tajo de Molino (leaves) Near El Chorro Tajo del Molino Cliffs, Ronda

Asparagus Pea Below Grazalema Toothed medick Hidden Valley **Bridal Veil Broom** Sierra del Pinar Las Mezas (leaves) Spiny Scorpion-vetch Las Mezas

Spanish Broom Roadsides Bladder Vetch Las Mezas Small-flowered Gorse Very Common

Broad Bean Escape from cultivation

Fodder Vetch Tajo de Molino Tajo de Molino

Mallow Family

Common Mallow Laguna Dulce

Fig Family

Near El Chorro Fig

Myrtle & Gum Family

Roadsides River Red Gum Tasmanian Blue Gum Roadsides Myrtle Gargante Verde

Oleaceae

Fraxinus angustifolia Jasminum fruticans Olea europaea Phillyrea angustifolia

Oxalidaceae

[Oxalis pes-caprae]

Paeoniaceae

Paeonia broteri

Papaveraceae

Fumaria bastardii Fumaria muralis Fumaria officinalis Platycapnos spicatus Rupicapnos africana

Plantaginaceae

Antirrhinum barrelieri
Antirrhinum graniticum
Chaenorhinum villosum
Cymbalaria muralis
Linaria aeruginea*
Linaria anticaria*
Linaria platycalyx*
Linaria tristis
Plantago arenaria
Plantago lagopus
Plantago major
Veronica cymbalaria

Polygonaceae

Veronica polita

Rumex scutatus

Primulaceae

Anagallis arvensis (Red & Blue)

Samolus valerandi

Ranunculaceae

Anemone palmata Clematis cirrhosa

Ficaria verna subsp. ficariiformis

Helleborus foetidus

Ranunculus spicatus subsp. blepharicarpos

Resedaceae

Reseda alba Reseda phyteuma Reseda suffruticosa **Olive Family**

Narrow-leaved Ash Between El Burgo & Ardales

Jasmine Tajo de Molino
Wild Olive Gargante Verde
Narrow-leaved Phyllyrea E of Grazalema

Wood-sorrel Family

Bermuda Buttercup Common weed

Peony Family

a Peony E of Puerto del Viento

Poppy Family

Below Grazalema
 Common Ramping Fumitory
 Finca La Guzmana
 Below Grazalema
 Laguna Dulce
 Near El Chorro

Plantain Family

a Snapdragon Cliffs, Ronda a Snapdragon Tajo de Molino - Near El Chorro

Ivy-leaved Toadflax Zahara

Cerro de Tavizna a Toadflax a Toadflax El Torcal (leaves) a Toadflax Zahara a Toadflax Hidden Valley **Branched Plantain** Tajo de Molino Hare's-tail Plantain Tajo de Molino Greater Plantain Finca La Guzmana White Speedwell Siera del Pinar

Grey Field Speedwell Ronda

Dock Family

French or Shield Dock El Torcal

Primrose Family

Scarlet Pimpernel Near El Chorro
Brookweed El Chorro

Buttercup Family

Yellow Anemone Mirador de las Acebuches
Virgin's Bower E of Puerto del Viento
Lesser Celandine S of Grazalema
Stinking Hellebore Sierra de las Nievas

a Buttercup El Chorro

Mignonette Family

White Mignonette Roadsides
Corn Mignonette W of Ronda
a Mignonette Near El Chorro

Reseda undata subsp. gayana (R. gayana) a Mignonette Cliffs, Ronda

Rosaceae **Rose Family**

Crataegus monogyna Hawthorn El Torcal Prunus avium Wild Cherry E of Grazalma

Almond [Prunus dulcis] Escape from cultivation Prunus prostrata Prostrate Plum Sierra del Pinar (leaves) Common on Roadsides Prunus spinosa Blackthorn

Rosa sp. El Torcal Bramble El Torcal Rubus ulmifolius Sanguisorba minor subsp. minor Salad Burnet Las Mezas

Bedstraw Family Rubiaceae

Cleavers Laguna Dulce Galium aparine Galium verrucosum Las Mezas Plocama (Putoria) calabrica Putoria Sierra del Pinar

Wild Madder Mirador Guarda Forestal Rubia peregrina

Sherardia arvensis Field Madder Below Zahara

Rutaceae **Rue Family**

Saxifragaceae

Simaroubaceae

Urticacae

[Citrus limon] Lemon Planted [Citrus sinensis] Planted Orange

Ruta montana Fringed Rue Hidden Valley

Santalaceae Sandalwood Family Viscum album Mistletoe

Ronda E of Puerto del Viento Viscum cruciatum Red-berried Mistletoe

Saxifrage Family

Saxifraga biternata* El Torcal Saxifrage El Torcal (leaves) Saxifraga bourgaeana* a Saxifrage Hidden Valley

Saxifraga granulata Meadow Saxifrage Cerro de Tavizna

Scrophulariaceae **Figwort Family**

Below Grazalema Scrophularia sambucifolia Elder-leaved Figwort Verbascum sinuatum Sierra del Pinar (leaves)

Tree of Heaven Family Ailanthus altissima Tree of Heaven Cliffs, Ronda

Solanaceae **Nightshade Family** Hyoscyamus albus White Henbane Zahara

S of Grazalema Mandrake Mandragoria autumnalis

Thymelaeaceae **Daphne Family** Daphne gnidium Mediterranean Mezereon Sierra del Pinar (leaves)

Sierra de las Nievas Daphne laureola Spurge Laurel

Thymelaea hirsuta Thymelea

Parietaria judaica Pellitory-of-the-wall Ronda Parietaria officinalis Large Pellitory-of-the-wall Zahara

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Nettle Family

Araceae

Iridaceae

Scientific name Common name Location

Urtica membranacea Membranous Nettle Mirador Guarda Forestal

Small Nettle Urtica urens Gargante Verde

Violaceae **Violet Family**

Viola demetrei Sierra del Pinar

> Monocots Monocotyledons

Amaryllidaceae Amaryllis Family Naples Garlic Allium neapolitanum Roadside near Antequerra

Narcissus assoanus (N. requienii) Rush-leaved Jonquil Verge, Gargante Verde Narcissus hispanicus (N. longispathus, N. bujei) Long-spathed Daffodil Sierra de las Nievas

Narcissus cantabricus White Hoop-petticoat Daffodil Near El Chorro (fruit)

Hidden Valley Narcissus cuatrecasasii* (N. rupicola) Rock Jonquil

Narcissus flavus (N. fernandesii) Verge, S of Grazalema Narcissus papyraceus Paper-white Daffodil Below Grazalema

Arum Family

Friar's Cowl Arisarum vulgare Gargante Verde

Palm Family Arecaceae

Dwarf Fan Palm Gargante Verde Chamærops humilis

Date Palm El Chorro [Phœnix dactylifera]

Asparagaceae **Asparagus Family** Aphyllanthes monspeliensis Blue Aphyllanthes

[Agave americana] Century Plant Cliffs, Ronda Asparagus acutifolius Sharp-leaved Asparagus Las Mezas Asparagus albus White-stemmed Asparagus Gargante Verde Dipcadi serotinum Brown Bluebell Near El Chorro

Pileta caves

Drimia (Urginea) maritima Sea Squill Common (leaves) Mirador Guarda Forestal Hyacinthoides hispanica Spanish Bluebell Muscari neglectum Grape Hyacinth Finca La Guzmana Ornithogalum baeticum a Star of Bethlehem Mirador Guada Forestal

Ornithogalum reverchonii* a Star of Bethlehem Hidden Valley Ruscus aculeatus Butcher's Broom El Torcal

Cyperaceae **Sedge Family**

Sierra del Pinar Carex caryophyllea Spring Sedge Schoenus nigricans Black Bog-rush Sierra del Pinar

Dioscoreaceae **Black Bryony Family**

Dioscorea (Tamus) communis Black Bryony Hidden valley

Iris foetidissima Stinking Iris El Torcal (fruit) Iris planifolia Broad-leaved Iris E of Puerto del Viento

Moraea sisyrinchium **Barbary Nut** tajo de Molino a Sand Crocus Romulea bulbocodium Sierra del Pinar

Iris Family

Romulea ramiflora ssp. gaditana (R. gaditana) a Sand Crocus Near El Chorro

Scientific name	Common name	Location
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Liliaceae Lily Family

Fritillaria lusitanicaPortuguese FritillaryNear El ChorroGagea foliosaa Yellow Star of BethlehemSierra del PinarGagea lacaitaea Yellow Star of BethlehemSierra de las Nievas

Orchid Family

an Early Purple Orchid

Sierra del Pinar

Orchidaceae

Orchis olbiensis

Anacamptis collina (Orchis collina) Fan-lipped orchid W of Ronda Sword-leaved Helleborine E of Grazalema Cephalanthera longifolia Himantoglossum robertianum Giant Orchid Below Zahara Sierra de las Nievas Neotinea tridentata subsp. conica (Orchis conica) a Toothed Orchid Ophrys bombyliflora Bumble Bee Orchid Below Zahara Ophrys fusca subsp. fusca Sombre Bee Orchid Sierra del Pinar W of Ronda Ophrys lutea Yellow Bee Orchid Ophrys omegaifera (O. fusca subsp. omegaifera) a Sombre Bee Orchid Las Mezas Ophrys speculum Mirror Orchid Near El Chorro Ophrys tenthredinifera Sawfly Orchid El Torcal Orchis anthropophora Man Orchid Near El Chorro Orchis italica Naked Man Orchid Las Mezas

Poaceae Grass Family

Anisantha diandra Great Brome Near El Chorro Arundo donax Giant Reed Tajo de Molino Bromus rubens Red Brome Tajo de Molino Cynosurus echinatus Rough Dog's-tail E of Grazalema Hyparrhenia hirta Tajo de Molino Lamarck's Golden Grass Lamarckia aurea Tajo de Molino Poa annua Annual Meadow Grass Finca La Guzmana Rostraria cristata Zahara Vulpia bromoides Squirrel-tail Fescue Laguna Dulce

Squire-tail rescue

Smilacaceae Smilax Family

Smilax aspera Common Smilax Gargante Verde

Xanthorrhoeaceae Asphodel Family

Asphodelus aestivusCommon AsphodelRoadsidesAsphodelus albusWhite AsphodelGargante VerdeAsphodelus fistulosusSmall AsphodelTajo de Molino

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; H = heard only; LO=leader only)

				March									
	Common name	Scientific name	15	16	17	18	19	20	21				
1	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos		✓	✓								
2	Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo			✓		✓						
3	Griffon Vulture	Gyps fulvus	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
4	Short-toed Snake Eagle	Circaetus gallicus				✓							
5	Golden Eagle	Aquila chrysaetos							✓				
6	Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo	✓						✓				
7	Rock Dove [Feral]	Columba livia feral	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
8	Common Wood Pigeon	Columba palumbus	✓				✓	✓					
9	Eurasian Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				

					ı	March	1		
	Common name	Scientific name	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10	Common Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus					Н		
11	Alpine Swift	Tachymarptis melba					✓	✓	
12	Common Swift	Apus apus							
13	Eurasian Hoopoe	Upupa epops			✓	✓	✓	Н	
14	Great Spotted Woodpecker	Dendrocopos major		Н		Н			
15	European Green Woodpecker	Picus viridis				Н			
16	Common Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus			✓	✓	✓		✓
17	Southern Grey Shrike	Lanius meridionalis			✓		✓		
18	Red-billed Chough	Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19	Carrion Crow	Corvus corone	✓						
20	Northern Raven	Corvus corax		✓					
21	Coal Tit	Periparus ater			✓	✓			
22	Great Tit	Parus major		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
23	Eurasian Blue Tit	Cyanistes caeruleus	✓			✓	✓		✓
24	Crested Lark	Galerida cristata	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
25	Sand Martin	Riparia riparia		✓			✓		
26	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
27	Eurasian Crag Martin	Ptyonoprogne rupestris			LO	✓	✓	✓	
28	Cetti's Warbler	Cettia cetti					Н		
29	Long-tailed Tit	Aegypius caudatus			✓				
30	Common Chiffchaff	Phylloscopus collybita					√		
31	Eurasian Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla			✓		√	✓	✓
32	Subalpine Warbler	Sylvia cantillans					√		
33	Sardinian Warbler	Sylvia melanocephala		Н			√	✓	√
34	Common Firecrest	Regulus ignicapilla		✓	✓	✓			
35	Eurasian Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes		Н	✓		Н	✓	
36	Eurasian Nuthatch	Sitta europaea				Н			
37	Spotless Starling	Sturnus unicolor	✓	✓	✓	✓	√	✓	✓
38	Ring Ouzel	Turdus torquatus		✓		Н			
39	Common Blackbird	Turdus merula		✓	✓	✓	√	✓	✓
40	Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos							Н
41	European Robin	Erithacus rubecula		Н	✓	Н	Н		
42	Black Redstart	Phoenicurus ochruros		✓			✓	√	✓
43	European Stonechat	Saxicola rubicola	✓	✓	✓		√	✓	✓
44	Black Wheatear	Oenanthe leucura						✓	
45	Blue Rock Thrush	Monticola solitarius				✓		✓	
46	House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	√	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
47	Grey Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea					✓		
48	White Wagtail	Motacilla alba		✓					✓
49	Common Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
50	European Serin	Serinus serinus			✓	✓	Н	✓	✓
51	European Greenfinch	Chloris chloris	√		✓	✓	✓ · ·	✓	Н
52	European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis	√	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
53	Red Crossbill	Loxia curvirostra				✓			
54	Corn Bunting	Emberiza calandra		✓	Н		✓		
55	Rock Bunting	Emberiza cia		✓	<u> </u>		✓	✓	✓
56	Cirl Bunting	Emberiza cirlus						Н	✓

		March						
Common name	Scientific name	15	16	17	18	19	20	21

Mammals (S=signs of)

1	Greater Mouse-eared Bat	Myotis myotis					✓	✓	
2	Red Fox	Vulpes vulpes	S			S	✓		
3	Stone Marten	Martes foina		S					
4	Badger	Meles meles	S						
5	Spanish Ibex	Capra pyrenaica		✓	✓		✓		
6	Wild Boar	Sus scrofa		S	S	S	S		
7	Rabbit	Oryctologus cuniculatus							✓

Amphibians & Reptiles (T=tadpole; J=juvenile)

66	Fire Salamander	Salamandra salamandra	Т					
67	Iberian Water Frog	Rana perezi				Н		
68	Moorish Gecko	Tarentola mauritanica		✓				
69	Ocellated Lizard	Timon lepidus				J		
70	Iberian Wall Lizard	Podarcis hispanica		✓			✓	
71	Large Psammodromus	Psammodromus algirus						
72	Spanish Psammodromus	Psammodromus hispanicus		✓	✓	✓	✓	

Butterflies

1	Swallowtail	Papilio machaon				✓	✓	✓
2	Spanish Festoon	Zerynthia rumina				✓	✓	✓
3	Large White	Pieris brassicae				✓		
4	Small White	Pieris rapae		✓		✓	✓	
5	Western Dappled White	Euchloe crameri		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	Clouded Yellow	Colias crocea					✓	
7	Brimstone	Gonepteryx rhamni				✓	✓	
8	Cleopatra	Gonepteryx cleopatra					✓	
9	Provence Hairstreak	Tomares ballus				✓	✓	
10	Small Copper	Lycaena phlaeas		✓			✓	
11	Red Admiral	Vanessa atalanta		✓		✓	✓	✓
12	Painted Lady	Vanessa cardui			✓	✓		
13	Small Tortoiseshell	Aglais urticae					✓	
14	Small Heath	Coenonympha pamphilus					✓	✓
15	Wall Brown	Lasiommata megera	✓	✓			✓	
16	Large Wall Brown	Lasiommata maera						

Macros Moths (B=bivouac)

1	Common Carpet	Epirrhoe alternata						
2	Yellow Belle	Semiaspilates ochrearia				✓		
3	Pine Processionary Moth	Thaumetopoea pityocampa		В	В	В	В	В
4	Humming-bird Hawk-moth	Macroglossum stellartarum				✓		
5	Silver-Y	Autographa gamma						

Other Taxa

1	Egyptian Grasshopper	Anacridum aegyptium				
2	Groundhopper	Tetrix depressa	✓			
3	a Ground Bug	Lygaeus sp.			✓	

				March						
	Common name	Scientific name	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
4	Common Backswimmer	Notonecta glauca		✓						
5	Honey Bee	Apis millifera							✓	
6	Buff-tailed Bumble Bee	Bombus terrestris		✓						
7	Red-striped Oil Beetle	Berberomeloe majalis						✓		
8	Green Spider	Micrommata virescens						✓		
9	Crab Spider	Misumena vatia					✓			



Silene colorata