

The Canary Islands

Naturetrek Tour Report

24 February – 3 March 2018



Canary Island Chiffchaff



Genneria diphylla



Solitary Bumblebee - *Anthophora alluaudi*



African Grass Blue

Report by Paul Harnes & Andrew Bray
Images courtesy of Nigel Carter



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Tour participants: Paul Harnes and Andrew Bray (leaders) together with 16 Naturetrek clients

Day 1

Saturday 24th February

Seven tour group members met with Paul and Andrew at Gatwick's North Terminal for the Easyjet flight EZY8703 to Tenerife South Airport. We landed on the island at around 11.30am, in time to meet up with the remaining nine members of the group, who had arrived independently from other airports. We quickly collected our vehicles and made our way to the nearby Casa Pedro, in Las Chafiras, for lunch. After eating, we moved to some nearby waste ground and a small concrete tank. A quick look at the dam by the entrance road produced the local race of Grey Wagtail [*canariensis*], three Little Egrets, Spectacled Warblers [*orbitalis*] and Spanish Sparrows. Overhead, Azorean Yellow-legged Gulls [*atlantis*] were patrolling. Meanwhile, across the road, we found the curious *Ceropegia fusca*, *Euphorbia terracina*, *Euphorbia regis-jubae* (Common Canary Spurge), *Aizoon canariensis*, *Schizogyne sericea* (Canary Samphire) and *Frankenia capitata*. There were also excellent views of a pair of Berthelot's Pipit [*berthelotii*]

Moving further towards the coast, we explored a small barranco by the Amarilla golf course. Here we found Eurasian Collared Dove and Southern Grey Shrike [*koenigi*], before making our way onto the coast at La Mareta. On the shoreline rocks we found nine Sanderling and, in a small pond at the back of the beach, we added Little Ringed Plover and Semipalmated Plover.

It was now time to make our way up to the small town of Vilaflor, which is situated on the T-21 route to Mount Teide. It took about 40 minutes before we arrived at the Hotel Alta Montana, where most of the group were staying, and the Casa El Zaguán, where the remaining group members were staying. We all met up at the first hotel for our evening meal, during which Paul and Andrew outlined some of the destinations for the first half of the tour.

Day 2

Sunday 25th February

Those of the group staying at the Casa El Zaguán, took breakfast at 7am, before joining our bus to go to the Hotel Alta Montana, to collect the second bus and the remaining group members and set off for the day. We took the TF-51 towards the motorway at Las Americas. From here, we made our way to the north-west corner of the island, and the Punto de Teno. There was extensive low cloud and light rain, but this began to clear as we neared our destination. Passing through Santiago del Teide we continued towards Icod, and down to Buenavista, at the beginning of the Punto de Teno. Our early arrival meant we were not prevented by access restrictions from driving to the end of the headland. Leaving the vehicles at the car park, we began to explore, in clearing skies but a very strong wind. Very little was seen on the bird front, with Azorean Yellow-legged Gull and Common Kestrel [*canariensis*]. However, the botanists had more luck, finding *Astydamia latifolia*, *Forsskaolea angustifolia* (Narrow-leaved Forsskaolea), *Periploca laevigata*, *Limonium pectinatum*, *Scilla haemorrhoidalis* and *Euphorbia regis-jubae* (Common Canary Spurge). As it was now beginning to spit with rain, our leaders decided to return to Buenavista for coffee. Along the way, we passed a number of *Malva canariensis* (Canary Tree Mallow) plants. In the town, a weedy piece of waste ground yielded *Erodium moschata* (Musk Mallow), *Rubia fruticosa* (Madder), *Galactites tomentosa* and *Volutaria canariensis*, as well as a solitary White Wagtail.

Leaving Buenavista as the rain began to intensify, we took the winding road towards the small, isolated village of Masca. After about 20 minutes, we left the road near Las Portelas, and followed a track up into the hills at Monte del Agua. Here, we found *Isoplexis canariensis* (Canary Island Foxglove), but it was not in flower. However, there was a fine show of *Canarina canariensis* (Canary Bellflower). There was also *Sonchus acaulis* (Stemless Sow-thistle) *Aeonium haworthii* (Haworth's Houseleek) *Hypericum canariensis* (Canary St. John's-wort), the leaves of *Ranunculus cortusifolius* (Atlantic Island Buttercup), *Viburnum rigidum* and *Hypericum grandifolium*. Canary Islands Chiffchaff was also seen. The rain was now becoming torrential, so we continued, in low cloud and heavy rain, on up towards Masca and down into Santiago del Teide. Along the way we noted *Echium aculeatum*, *Echium virescens*, *Cheilanthes pulchella*, *Todaroa aurea*, *Asphodelus aestivum* (Common Asphodel) and *Ferula linkii*.

The rain and low cloud were well set in, and a picnic was impossible, so we stopped in Santiago for a welcome hot lunch.

It was now evident that the weather was not going to improve, so our leaders took the difficult decision to abandon the rest of the day in the field, and we headed back to our hotels, before meeting up for dinner later on.

Day 3

Monday 26th February

An early start today saw us on the road at 6.45am, en route to the port at Los Christianos, where we would be catching the ferry to San Sebastian on the adjacent island of La Gomera. On our arrival at the harbour, Andrew went off to book our tickets, while Paul organised breakfast. Apart from the ubiquitous Yellow-legged Gull [*atlantis*] and a Collared Dove or two, the only other bird seen was a small flock of Ruddy Turnstone.

Once on board, we made our way to the upper deck to sea watch during the one-hour crossing. Almost immediately, we were finding plenty of Cory's Shearwaters [*borealis*] which, unfortunately, proved to be the only species seen.

On our arrival, we made our way out of the harbour, and parked on the edge of the town, where we planned to explore the park. Canary Islands Large White, Indian Red Admiral and a splendid Monarch were early butterfly finds, together with Blackcap [*heineken*], African Blue Tit, Common Blackbird [*cabreræ*], Hoopoe and Spanish Sparrow. For the botanists there was *Medicago polymorpha* (Toothed Medick), *Euphorbia prostrata* (Prostrate Spurge), *Oxalis corniculatus* (Yellow Oxalis) and *Portulaca oleracea* (Common Purslane). One of our target species was the tiny African Grass Blue butterfly, and after a lengthy search, we found about three or four. Once the photographers had taken pictures, Paul netted one for people to see at close quarters, before we re-joined the buses.

Leaving the town, we drove up towards the centre of the island on the TF-711, making our first stop on the west side of a tunnel, where we explored a section of the old road. Atlantic Canary was active here, and a small group of Barbary Partridges were also recorded. However, it was the plants that were the main focus. *Rumex lunaria* (Canary Dock), *Euphorbia balsamifera*, *Monanthes polyphylla*, *Allagopappus canariensis*, *Bitumaria bituminosa* (Pitch Trefoil), *Sideritis gomerae* (Gomera False Sage) and *Lobularia canariensis* (Canary Island Alison) were all found. As we were about to leave a Barbary Falcon was seen.

Continuing higher we made our way into the forests of the Garajonay National Park, where we stopped at a viewpoint. Here, our leaders prepared our picnic lunch. After eating, Paul took the botanists to examine the

verge vegetation. *Gesnouria arborea* (Tree Pellitory), *Phyllis nobla* (Capitana), *Aeonium subplanum*, *Woodwardia radicans* (Chain Fern), *Myrica faya* (Wax Myrtle) and *Bystropogon canariensis* were all recorded. Meanwhile the birders were concentrating on trying to find the Laurel Pigeon, and they were not disappointed. They had views of at least six birds flying over the canopy.

Our next stop in the national park was at the Mirador El Bailadero. Here the island endemic *Echium acanthocarpum* was found, along with *Argyranthemum frutescens* (Paris Daisy), *Cytisus proliferous* (Tagasaste), *Carlina salicifolia* (Carline Thistle) and *Cytisus* c.f. *filipes*. Superb views were also had of Canary Islands Chiffchaff, Boettger's Lizard, Canary Brimstone and Canary Bumblebee.

Our final brief stop was at the Mirador Les Roques, where Paul showed us two Orchids: *Gennaria diphylla* (Gennaria), and *Habenaria tridactylites* (Canary Twayblade) which, unfortunately, was well past its best.

It was now time to return to the harbour, where we partook of ice cream and coffee, before boarding the ferry for the return journey. Apart from the regular Cory's Shearwaters [*borealis*], we added a small group of four Sandwich Terns, a good number of Common Dolphins and a small pod of Short-finned Pilot Whales.

Upon our arrival back at Los Christianos, we soon made our way to Vilaflor.

Day 4

Tuesday 27th February

Today we headed off to the north-eastern end of the island, to the Anaga Peninsula. Leaving our hotel in low cloud and drizzle, we joined the motorway, leaving at Candelaria to buy our picnic lunch, before re-joining the motorway and continuing to Santa Cruz. Arriving on the peninsula, we made our way to Chinamada, where we parked. Along the way we recorded Common Kestrel [*canariensis*] and Common Buzzard [*insularum*]. As it had been a protracted journey, we took our lunch. By now the rain had eased, but had been replaced by gale-force winds

After eating, we set off on a short walk, it was not long before we were finding new plants. These included *Monanthes anagensis*, *Rumex bucephalophorus* (Horned Dock), *Polypodium macaronesticum* (Polypody), *Echium aculeatum*, *Echium strictum*, *Pericallis tussilaginis*, *Sonchus congestus* (Anaga Sow-thistle), *Aeonium canariensis* (Canary Houseleek), *Aichryson parlatorei*, *Urtica membranacea* (Membranous Nettle), *Allium roseum* (Rosy Garlic), *Dracaena draco* (Dragon Tree), *Scilla haemorrhoidalis*, *Romulea columnae* subsp. *grandiscapa* and *Sonchus leptcephalus*. As we progressed towards the headland, we also recorded Sardinian Warbler [*leucogastra*], Canary and Raven, as well as *Habenaria tridactylites* (Canary Twayblade) and Canary Speckled Wood and Red Admiral Butterflies.

After our picnic, we made our way to the Mirador at Cruz de Carmen, where we heard Canary Robins and Common Blackbirds [*cabreræ*]. We also found *Cotula australis* (a Buttonweed), together with *Teline microphyllum* and *Laurus novo-canariensis* (Azores Laurel).

We now moved to the recreation area at Llano de Los Viejos to search for Bolle's Pigeon and Canary Islands Goldcrest (Tenerife Kinglet). Unfortunately, we could not locate the Kinglet, but we did manage to find several of the Pigeons, although they were not the best views as it was rather misty. In addition, we also saw a good number of Common Chaffinch [*tintillon*]. Plants included *Adiantum reniforme* (Kidney-leaved Fern), *Asplenium*

hemionitis (Mule's Fern), *Ilex perado* subsp. *platyphylla* (Broad-leaved Holly), *Ocotea foetens* (Stinkwood) and *Davallia canariensis* (Hare's-foot Fern).

It was now time to make our way back to Vilaflor, in time for dinner.

Day 5

Wednesday 28th February

Following torrential overnight rain, which continued into the morning, we took breakfast at 8am, before making the short journey up to the picnic site at Los Lajas, in an attempt to find Blue Chaffinch. As we made our way slowly up the road, where stones were being washed down, a single bird flew up across the road and into the forest. This fleeting glimpse was only witnessed by those in the front seat of the front minibus. When we arrived at the picnic site, the rain seemed to intensify, and apart from a pair of Ravens [*tingitanus*], sadly, nothing was moving.

Gingerly making our way back down through Vilaflor, we joined the motorway towards Tenerife North Airport for our 2.20pm flight to Fuerteventura. By now the rain had cleared, and we arrived in a light shower, which turned to bright sunshine. After returning our hired vehicles, and before boarding, we had lunch in the café. Once on the more eastern and desert-like island of Fuerteventura, we collected our new vehicles and after buying fuel and some water, we got straight into the wildlife with a visit to the Barranco de Río Cabras, near Llamnos Pelados. As we arrived in a strong wind, we spotted Ravens and Yellow-legged Gulls [*atlantis*], together with Common Buzzard [*insularum*] and a family of three Egyptian Vultures [*majorensis*]. In the barranco, we saw Ruddy Shelduck, Black-winged Stilt, Berthelot's Pipit [*berthelotii*] and a solitary male Canary Islands Stonechat (also called Fuerteventura Chat).

Returning to our vehicles, we re-joined the main north-south road towards Morro Jable. Along the way, we added Common Kestrel [*dacotiae*]. After about 45 minutes, we reached the Hotel Melia Gorriones, our base for the next three nights.

Meeting at 8pm for dinner, our leaders outlined the next days' excursions.

Day 6

Thursday 1st March

At 6.45am, we met with our leaders in the lobby of the hotel and joined our vehicles for the 10-minute drive to the desert plain behind Costa Calma, for a pre-breakfast excursion in search of birds. All around us there were the constant calls of Lesser Short-toed Larks [*polatzeki*], with occasional sightings of these and Berthelot's Pipit [*berthelotii*]. Our next encounter was with a small group of Cream-coloured Coursers, on the ground, which provided good views for all. Next, Andrew located a solitary Black-bellied Sandgrouse, which soon took to the air. And almost immediately, a group of four of these difficult-to-see birds were seen flying away. As we were leaving the desert we added Yellow-legged Gull [*atlantis*] and Raven [*tingitanus*], as we returned to the hotel for breakfast.

After eating, we re-convened at the buses for the drive inland to Pajara where we had a brief look around the barranco whilst Andrew and Paul did a quick shop for our picnic. Species here included African Blue Tit [*ultramarinus*], a pair of Spectacled Warblers [*orbitalis*] and Canary Islands Chiffchaff. On some waste ground we

also saw *Fagonia cretica* (Fagonia) and *Sisymbrium irio* (London Rocket). We also recorded a Green-striped White butterfly.

We now continued our journey to a hilltop recreation/picnic area at Castillo de Lara. Along the way we made a brief stop at the Mirador de Las Peñitas where the main attraction was the population of introduced Barbary Ground Squirrels that live on the hillsides and have become rather tame and attracted to handouts from tourists. The major ornithological interest at this site is the Egyptian Vulture nest ledge that can be seen distantly from here. However, today we were unlucky as there were no birds present. A Raven [*tingitanus*] and some Spanish Sparrows posed for photographers, also in hope of a handout.

Upon our arrival at Castillo de Lara, our leaders set about preparing our picnic. Raven [*tingitanus*], Berthelot's Pipit [*berthelotii*], Egyptian Vulture [*majorensis*] and Common Buzzard [*insularum*] were all noted. After the meal, we set about exploring the rocky hillside, finding the rare and curious *Caralluma burchardii*, with a Plain Tiger caterpillar on it, *Asparagus pastorianus*, *Calendula arvensis* (Field Marigold), *Lamarckia aurea* (Lamarck's Golden Grass) and *Helianthemum canariensis* (Canary Rockrose). There were also Plain Tiger and Canary Islands Large White butterflies, as well as a small flock of Common Linnet [*harterti*],

The last main location for the afternoon was the Barranco Rio Penitas, at Vega de Rio Palmas, which has some natural running water, which attracts birds and insects. Our exploration of the area produced a solitary Laughing Dove, Sardinian Warbler [*leucogastra*], Spectacled Warbler and Spotted Crake, plus a female Epaulet Skimmer, Blue Emperor and Lesser Emperor dragonflies. Butterflies included Greenish Blacktip and Canary Islands Large White and we also found Eastern Canaries Lizard. For the botanists we added *Spergularia marina* (Lesser Sea-spurrey), *Rumex lunaria* (Canary Dock), *Dittrichia viscosa* (Stink Aster) and *Convolvulus althaeoides* (Mallow-leaved Bindweed).

We took a coffee and ice cream stop in Pajara, before making our way back to the Costa Calma Desert, for a second visit. Lesser Short-toed Larks [*polatzeki*], Cream-coloured Courser, Black-bellied Sandgrouse, Berthelot's Pipit [*berthelotii*] and a solitary Barn Swallow were seen. Plants included *Convolvulus caput-medusae* (Medusa's Head), *Lotus lancerottensis*, *Kickxia heterophyllum*, *Lyceum intricatum*, *Dipcadi serotinus* (Brown Bluebell) and *Heliotropium bacciferum*.

From here we returned to our hotel in time to freshen up before dinner.

Day 7

Friday 2nd March

A second day of meeting at 6.45am saw us on our way, once again, to the Costa Calma Desert, for an early excursion to try and find the elusive Houbara Bustard [*fuerteventurae*]. Early sightings were again the Lesser Short-toed Larks [*polatzeki*] and Berthelot's Pipit [*berthelotii*]. However, before long we added four Black-bellied Sandgrouse, seen first on the track, and then in the desert. This was followed by three Cream-coloured Coursers, busy feeding and preening. It was at this point that we spotted a single male Houbara Bustard, displaying on the horizon. Excellent scoped views, of this stunning bird, were had by all.

We now returned to the hotel for breakfast, before meeting at the buses at 9.30am for a visit to the Jandia National Park in the south of the island. In this area we were found the very rare, and very localised, *Euphorbia*

handiensis, a cactus-like species found at only two locations on the planet. This is one of the rarest species in the Canary Island flora. In addition, we also recorded *Lotus glinoides* and *Aizoon canariensis* (Canary Dewplant) and *Astragalus solandri*. There was also a fine adult specimen of Eastern Canaries Gecko.

Moving back into Morro Jable, we stopped for a short time at the Stella Canaris resort where we had good views of Monk Parakeets, several Sacred Ibis and a solitary Hadededa Ibis. Just a short distance from here, on the golf course, we saw four Ruddy Shelduck, Western Cattle Egret and White Wagtail, and a little further on we added a fine pair of Canary Islands Stonechat.

Returning towards the hotel, we took lunch at a pizza restaurant near the petrol station in Costa Calma. Once we had finished eating, we went to look at the vegetation at La Lajita, a well-known location for Laughing Dove and Trumpeter Finch. It didn't take too long to locate the doves, but we could not find the finches. We also recorded Hoopoe, two Ruddy Shelduck and Barbary Ground Squirrel.

The final destination for the day was to the coastal track to the south of the hotel. Here we added Black-tailed Godwit, Grey Heron, Whimbrel and Little Egret.

We now returned to the hotel in time for some 'down-time' before dinner.

Day 8

Saturday 3rd March

Today was the final day of the tour and, after an early breakfast at 7.30am, we set off in the direction of the airport. Unfortunately, our various homeward flight departures were staggered throughout the course of the day. The first group were dropped off in time for late morning and early afternoon flights. Our leaders, with the remaining group members, went to visit the Barranco de La Torre where we were able to explore for about half an hour, before it came on to rain. Here we saw a pair of Trumpeter Finches [*amantum*], Ruddy Shelduck and Spectacled Warbler [*orbitalis*]. A second stop in the same Barranco yielded little different.

We now made a short stop at the coast at Salinas de Carmen, to scan the sea. There was little on the shore, as the tide was right in. However, there were two Ruddy Shelduck, Common Sandpiper and Yellow-legged Gull [*atlantis*], as well as numerous Barbary Ground Squirrels.

Following lunch, we made one last stop at the Barranco Rio Cabras. Here the highlights here were Canary Islands Stonechat, Egyptian Vulture [*majorensis*], Wood Sandpiper, Berthelot's Pipit [*berthelotii*], Raven [*tingitanus*], Common Ringed Plover and the rare Dwarf Bittern that we did not manage to see on the first day.

It was, sadly, now time to make our way to the airport, where the remaining group members said their farewells and caught their respective flights back to the UK.

Species Lists

Plants (** = Canary Islands endemic; ** = Atlantic Island endemic; * = Single Island endemic; [] = Introduced or planted)

Please Note: 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		
Lycophytes		
Clubmosses & Quillworts		
Sellaginellaceae		
<i>Selaginella kraussiana</i>	Lesser Clubmoss Family Kraus's Clubmoss	Garajonay NP, La Gomera
Leptosporangiate Ferns		
True Ferns		
Adiantaceae		
<i>Adiantum reniforme</i> **	Maidenhair Fern Family Kidney-leaved Fern	El Llano de los Viejos
Aspleniaceae		
<i>Asplenium hemionitis</i> **	Spleenwort Family Mule's fern Irish Spleenwort	El Llano de Los Viejos
<i>Asplenium onopteris</i>		Garajonay NP, La Gomera
Blechnaceae		
<i>Woodwardia radicans</i> **	Hard Fern Family Chain Fern	Garajonay NP, La Gomera
Davalliaceae		
<i>Davallia canariensis</i> **	Hare's-foot Fern Family Hare's-foot Fern	El Llano de Los Viejos
Dennstaedtiaceae		
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken Family Bracken	Roadside, Masca
Hemionitidaceae		
<i>Cosentinia (Cheilanthes) vellea</i>	Jersey Fern Family -	Chinamarda
Polypodiaceae		
<i>Polypodium macaronesicum</i>	Polypody Family Macaronesian Polypody	Chinamarda
GYMNOSPERMS		
CONIFERS		
Pinaceae		
<i>Pinus canariensis</i> ***	Pine Family Canary Islands Pine	Vilaflor area
ANGIOSPERMS		
FLOWERING PLANTS		
Pre-Dicots		
Primitive Angiosperms		
Lauraceae		
<i>Laurus novo-canariensis</i> ** (<i>L. azorica</i>)	Laurel Family Azores Laurel Stinkwood	Garajonay NP, La Gomera
<i>Ocotea fotens</i>		El Llano de Los Viejos

Scientific name	Common name	Location
Eu-Dicots	True Dicotyledons	
Aizoaceae	Dewplant Family	
<i>Aizoon canariensis</i>	-	Punta Jandia
<i>Mesembryanthemum crystallinum</i>	Ice Plant	Barranco Las Penitas
Amaranthaceae (Chenopodiaceae)	Goosefoot Family	
<i>Achyranthes aspera</i>	Devil's Coach-whip	Chinamarda
<i>Atriplex glauca</i> subsp. <i>ifniensis</i>	-	Casta Calma Desert
<i>Salsola vermiculata</i>	-	Punta Jandia
<i>Traganum moquinii</i>	-	Punto de Teno
Anacardaceae	Sumach Family	
[<i>Pistachia terebinthus</i>]	Turpentine Bush	Las Lajitas
Apiaceae	Carrot Family	
<i>Astydamia latifolia</i>	Canary Samphire	Punto de Teno
<i>Ferula linkii</i>		Roaside N of Buena Vista
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel	Roadside weed, La Gomera
<i>Scandex pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's Needle	Chinamarda
<i>Seseli webbii</i>	-	Mirador El Baledero
<i>Todaroa aurea</i>	-	Roadside, Masca
Apocynaceae	Periwinkle Family	
<i>Calotropis procera</i>	Apple of Sodom	Morro Jable
<i>Caralluma burchardii</i> ***	-	Castillio de Lara
<i>Ceropegia fusca</i> ***	-	Waste ground by Amarillo Golf
<i>Periploca laevigata</i> ***	-	Punto de Teno
<i>Vinca major</i>	Greater Periwinkle	Monte del Agua
Aquifoliaceae	Holly Family	
<i>Ilex canariensis</i> ***	Canary Island Holly	Monte del Agua
<i>Ilex perado</i> subsp. <i>platyphylla</i> **	Broad-leaved Holly	El Llano de Los Viejos
Araliaceae	Ivy Family	
<i>Hedera canariensis</i> ***	Canary Ivy	Garajonay NP, La Gomera
Boraginaceae	Borage Family	
<i>Echium acanthocarpum</i> *	Gomeran Bugloss	Mirador El Baledero
<i>Echium aculeatum</i> ***	-	Roadside, Masca
<i>Echium decaisnei</i> ***	Gran Canaria Bugloss	Castillio de Lara
<i>Echium leucophaeum</i> *	-	Chinamarda
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Viper's-bugloss	Chinamarda
<i>Echium simplex</i> *	Silver Viper's-bugloss	Chinamarda (NIF)
<i>Echium strictum</i> ***	Rough-leaved Bugloss	Chinamarda
<i>Echium virescens</i> *	Tenerife Viper's-bugloss	Roadside , Masca
<i>Echium wildpretii</i> *	Teide Bugloss	Vilaflor (NIF)
<i>Heliotropium bacciferum</i> ***	Heliotrope	Coasta Calma Desert
Brassicaceae	Cabbage Family	
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's Purse	Chinamarda
<i>Crambe scaberrima</i> *	-	Punto de Teno
<i>Descurania bourgeauana</i> **	-	Chinamarda

Scientific name	Common name	Location
<i>Descurainia millefolia</i> ***	Canary Flixweed	Roadside rocks, La Gomera
<i>Eruca vesicaria</i>	Rocket	Chinamarda
<i>Erysimum bicolor</i> **	-	Garajonay NP, La Gomera
<i>Lobularia canariensis</i> ***	Canary Islands Alison	Roadside rocks, La Gomera
<i>Sisymbrium irio</i>	London Rocket	Pajara
Cactaceae	Cactus Family	
[<i>Opuntia dellinii</i>]	-	Common
[<i>Opuntia maxima</i>]	Barbary Fig	Common
Campanulaceae	Bellflower Family	
<i>Canarina canariensis</i> ***	Canary Bellflower	Monte del Agua
Caprifoliaceae	Honeysuckle Family	
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red Valerian	Vilaflor
<i>Viburnum rigidum</i> ***	Canary Island Guelder Rose	Monte del Agua
Caryophyllaceae	Pink Family	
<i>Dicheranthus plocamoides</i> **	Gomerian All-seed	Roadside rocks, La Gomera
<i>Paronychia canariensis</i> **	-	Chinamarda
<i>Silene gallica</i>	Small-flowered Catchfly	Chinamarda
<i>Spergularia marina</i>	Lesser Sea Spurrey	Barranco Las Penitas
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Chickweed	Chinamarda
Casuarinaceae	Sheoak Family	
[<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i>]	-	Pajara
Cistaceae	Cistus Family	
<i>Helianthemum canariense</i> *	Canary Rock-rose	Costa Calma Desert
Compositae (Asteraceae)	Daisy Family	
<i>Allagopappus dichotomus</i> ***	-	Roadside rocks, La Gomera
<i>Argyranthemum callichrysum</i> *	Gomera Yellow Daisy	Roadside, La Gomera
<i>Argyranthemum frutescens</i> ***	Paris Daisy	Mirador El Bailedero
<i>Argyranthemum gracile</i> ***	-	Common
<i>Artemisia canariensis</i> ***(<i>A. thuscula</i>)	-	Monte del Agua
<i>Asteriscus (Nauplius) sericeus</i> *	Fuerteventura Sea-daisy	Roadsides N of Pajara
<i>Bidens pilosa</i>	Bur Marigold	Chinamarda
<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Field Marigold	Punto de Teno
<i>Carduus clavulatus</i>	-	Chinamarda
<i>Carlina salicifolia</i> **	Canary Carlina Thistle	Mirador El Bailedero
<i>Conyza bonariensis</i>	Argentine Fleabane	Chinamarda
<i>Cotula australis</i>	a Buttonweed	Cruz de Carmen
<i>Cynara cardunculus</i>	Cardoon	Roadsides N of Pajara (in seed)
<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	Stink Aster	Barranco Las Penitas
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Galactites	Buenavista
<i>Glebionis coronaria</i> var. <i>discolor</i>	Crown Daisy	Barranco Las Penitas
<i>Kleinia neriifolia</i> ***	Canary Islands Candle Plant	Very common
<i>Launaea arborescens</i>	Barbed-Wire Bush	Very common
<i>Pericallis steetzii</i> *	Gomera Cinararia	Garajonay NP, La Gomera
<i>Pericallis tussilaginis</i>	-	Chinamarda
<i>Phagnalon rupestre</i>	Phagnalon	Roadside rocks, La Gomera
<i>Reichardia tingitana</i>	-	Pajara

Scientific name	Common name	Location
<i>Schizogyne sericea</i> ***	Canary Samphire	Waste ground by Amarillo Golf
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle	Chinamarda (NIF)
<i>Sonchus acaulis</i> ***	Stemless Sow-thistle	Monte del Agua
<i>Sonchus congestus</i> ***	Anaga Sow-thistle	Monte del Agua
<i>Sonchus gomerensis</i> *	-	Garajonay NP, La Gomera
<i>Sonchus ortunoj</i> *	Gomerian Sow-thistle	Garajonay NP, La Gomera
<i>Voluntaria canariensis</i>	-	Buenavista
Convolvulaceae	Bindweed Family	
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Bindweed	Barranco Las Penitas
<i>Convolvulus caput-medusae</i> ***	Dwarf Sea Bindweed	Coasta Calma Desert
Crassulaceae	Stonecrop Family	
<i>Aeonium canariense</i> *	Canary Houseleek	Chinamarda
<i>Aeonium haworthii</i> *	Haworth's Houseleek	Monte del Agua
<i>Aeonium subplanum</i> *	-	Garajonay NP, La Gomera
<i>Aichryson parlatorei</i> ***	-	Chinamarda
<i>Monanthes anagensis</i> *	-	Chinamarda
<i>Monanthes pallens</i> ***	-	Chinamarda
<i>Monanthes polyphylla</i> ***	-	Roadside rocks, La Gomera
<i>Monanthes subcrassicaulis</i> ***	-	Mirador El Balletero
Ericaceae	Heather Family	
<i>Arbutus canariensis</i> ***	Canary Strawberry Tree	Garajonay NP, La Gomera
<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree Heather	Monte del Agua
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family	
<i>Euphorbia aphylla</i> ***	Leafless Spurge	Punto de Teno
<i>Euphorbia atropurpurea</i> ***	-	Roadside, Masca
<i>Euphorbia canariensis</i> ***	Canary Island Cactus-spurge	Punto de Teno
<i>Euphorbia handiensis</i> *	-	Jandia Peninsula
<i>Euphorbia (broussonetii) lamarckii</i> ***	-	Roadsides N of Pajara
<i>Euphorbia prostrata</i>	Prostrate Spurge	San Sebastian
<i>Euphorbia regis-jubae</i> ***	Common Canary Spurge	Punto de Teno
<i>Euphorbia (obtusifolius) terracina</i>	-	Punto de Teno
[<i>Ricinus communis</i>]	Castor Oil Plant	Monte del Agua
Frankeniaceae	Sea Heath Family	
<i>Frankenia capitata</i>	a Sea Heath	Punto de Teno
Fumariaceae	Fumitory Family	
<i>Fumaria montana</i>	-	Chinamarda
Geraniaceae	Geranium Family	
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Stork's-bill	Castillio de Lara
<i>Erodium moschatum</i>	Musk Stork's-bill	Buenavista
<i>Geranium reuteri</i> *** (<i>G. canariense</i>)	Canary Island Crane's-bill	Garajonay NP, La Gomera (NIF)
Hypericaceae	St.John's-wort Family	
<i>Hypericum canariensis</i> **	Canary St.John's-wort	Monte del Agua
<i>Hypericum grandifolium</i> **		Monte del Agua

Scientific name	Common name	Location
Lamiaceae	Dead-nettle Family	
<i>Bystropogon canariensis</i> ***	-	Garajonay NP, La Gomera
<i>Lavandula buchii</i> *	-	Chinamarda
<i>Lavandula (multifida subsp.) canariensis</i> ***	Canary Island Lavender	Roadside rocks, La Gomera
<i>Micromeria varia</i> **	Common Canary Savory	Monte del Agua
<i>Salvia aegyptica</i>	-	Jandia Peninsula
<i>Sideritis gomerae</i> *	Gomera False Sage	Roadside rocks, La Gomera
Leguminosae (Fabaceae)	Pea Family	
<i>Astragalus solandri</i>	-	Jandia Peninsula
<i>Bitumaria bituminosa</i>	Pitch Trefoil	Roadside rocks, La Gomera
<i>Chamaecytisus proliferus</i> ***	Tagasaste	Mirador El Baledero
<i>Genista linifolia (Teline gomerae)</i> *	-	Mirador El Baledero
<i>Lotus lancerottensis</i> ***	-	Costa Calma Desert
<i>Medicago polymorpha</i>	Toothed Medick	Punta de Teno
<i>Ononis hesperia</i>	a Yellow Restharrow	Costa Calma Desert
<i>Scoparius muricatus</i>	Scorpion Vetch	Castillio de Lara
<i>Spartocytisus filipes</i> ***	-	Mirador El Baledero
<i>Teline canariensis</i> ***	-	Chinamarda
<i>Teline micropyllus</i>	-	Cruz de Carmen
Malvaceae	Mallow Family	
<i>Lavatera acerifolia</i> ***	Canary Tree Mallow	Punta de Teno
Mimosaceae	Acacia Family	
[<i>Acacia cyanophylla</i>]	-	Las Lajitas
Myricaceae	Sweet Gale Family	
<i>Myrica faya</i> **	Wax Myrtle	Garajonay NP, La Gomera
Orobanchaceae	Broomrape Family	
<i>Cistanche phelipaea</i>	Cistanche	Roadside near Costa Calma
Oxalidaceae	Wood Sorrel Family	
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda Buttercup	Very common
Papaveraceae	Poppy Family	
<i>Eschscholzia californicum</i>	Californian Poppy	Vilaflor
<i>Papaver somniferum</i>	Opium Poppy	Vilaflor
Plantaginaceae	Plantain Family	
<i>Plantago arborescens</i> **	Canarian Shrubby Plantain	Chinamarda
<i>Plantago aschersonii</i> ***	-	Castillio de Lara
Plumbaginaceae	Thrift Family	
<i>Limonium fruticans</i> *	Tenerife Sea Lavender	Chinamarda
<i>Limonium pectinatum</i> **	Dwarf Sea Lavender	Punto de Teno
<i>Limonium sinuatum</i>	-	
Polygonaceae	Dock Family	
<i>Rumex bipinnatus</i>	-	Barranco Las Penitas
<i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i>	Horned Dock	Chinamarda
<i>Rumex lunaria</i> ***	-	Roadside rocks, La Gomera

Scientific name	Common name	Location
Portulacaceae <i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Purslane Family Common Purslane	San Sebastian
Primulaceae <i>Anagallis arvensis (Blue)</i>	Primrose Family Scarlet Pimpernel	Chinamarda
Ranunculaceae <i>Ranunculus cortusifolius**</i>	Buttercup Family Atlantic Islands Buttercup	Chinamarda
Rosaceae [<i>Prunus dulcis</i>]	Rose Family Almond	Frequently naturalised
Rubiaceae <i>Phyllis nobla**</i> <i>Rubia fruticosa</i>	Bedstraw Family Capitana Madder	Garajonay NP, La Gomera Buenavista
Solanaceae <i>Datura innoxia</i> <i>Datura stramonium</i> <i>Lycium intricatum</i> <i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	Nightshade Family a Datura Thornapple - Shrub Tobacco	Barranco de la Torre Roadsides Costa Calma Desert Very Common
Tamaricaceae <i>Tamarix canariensis</i>	Tamarisk Family Canary Tamarisk	Barranco Las Penitas
Urticaceae <i>Forsskaolea angustifolia***</i> <i>Gesnouinia arborea***</i> <i>Urtica membranacea</i>	Nettle Family Narrow-leaved Forsskaolea Tree Pellitory Membranous Nettle	Punto de Teno Garajonay NP, La Gomera Chinamarda
Zygophyllaceae <i>Fagonia cretica</i> <i>Tetraena (Zygophyllum) fontanesii</i>	Caltrop Family Fagonia Canarian Bean-Caper	Pajara Costa Calma Desert
Monocots	Monocotyledons	
Amaryllidaceae <i>Allium roseum</i> <i>Nothoscordum gracile</i>	Daffodil Family Rosy Garlic -	Chinamarda Chinamarda
Arecaceae <i>Phoenix canariensis***</i> [<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i>]	Palm Family Canary Palm Date Palm	La Gomera Planted
Asparagaceae <i>Asparagus pastorianus</i> <i>Dipcadi serotinum</i> <i>Dracaena draco</i> <i>Scilla haemorrhoidalis***</i> <i>Semele androgyna</i>	Asparagus Family - Brown Bluebell Dragon-tree - -	Castillio de Lara Castillio de Lara Chinamarda Punto de Teno
Cyperaceae <i>Cyperus capitatus</i>	Sedge Family a Galingale	Pajara

Scientific name	Common name	Location
<i>Cyperus rotundus</i>	-	San Sebastian
Iridaceae	Iris Family	
<i>Romulea columnae</i> subsp. <i>grandiscapa</i> ***	Canary Crocus	Chinamarda
Orchidaceae	Orchid Family	
<i>Gennaria diphylla</i>	Gennaria	Mirador Les Roques
<i>Habenaria tridactylites</i> ***	Canary Twayblade	Chinamarda
Poaceae	Grass Family	
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Great Reed	Common
<i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i>	Buffle Grass or Sand Bur	Common
<i>Hyparrhenia hirta</i>	-	Castillio de Lara
<i>Lamarckia aurea</i>	Lamarck's Golden Grass	Castillio de Lara
<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	Fountain Grass	Common
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common Reed	Barranco Las Penitas
<i>Polypogon monspeliensis</i>	Annual Beard-grass	Lamerata
<i>Stenotaphrum secundatum</i>	Buffalo Grass	San Sebastian
Xanthorrhoeaceae	Aloe Family	
[<i>Aloe vera</i>]	-	Naturalised
[<i>Agave americana</i>]	Century Plant	Naturalised
FUNGI:		
<i>Laurobasidium lauri</i>	Laurel Fungus	El Llano de los Viejos
Lichens:		
<i>Lobaria pulmonaria</i>	Lungwort Lichen	Garajonay NP, La Gomera

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

	Common name	Scientific name	February/March							
			24	25	26	27	28	1	2	3
1	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>					✓		✓	✓
2	Barbary Partridge	<i>Alectoris barbara</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	
3	Cory's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris diomedea borealis</i>	✓	✓	✓				✓	
4	African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>							✓	
5	Hadedda Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>							✓	
6	Dwarf Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus sturmi</i>								✓
7	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	✓							
8	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bulbulcus ibis</i>							✓	
9	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>							✓	
10	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓				✓	✓	✓	
11	Canary Island Egyptian Vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus majorensis</i>					✓	✓		✓
12	Canary Islands Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo insularum</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
13	Canary Islands Houbara Bustard*	<i>Chlamydotis undulata fuertaventurae</i>							✓	
14	Spotted Crake	<i>Porzana porzana</i>						✓		
15	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>								✓
16	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>					✓			
17	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>								✓
18	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	✓							
19	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	✓						✓	
20	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>								✓

	Common name	Scientific name	February/March								
			24	25	26	27	28	1	2	3	
21	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>								✓	
22	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>								✓	
23	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>									✓
24	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>			✓						
25	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	✓							✓	
26	Cream-coloured Courser	<i>Cursorius cursor</i>							✓	✓	
27	Azorean Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis atlantis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i>			✓						
29	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>			✓						✓
30	Black-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>							✓	✓	
31	Rock Dove (Feral)	<i>Columba livia feral</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
32	Bolle's Pigeon*	<i>Columba bollii</i>				✓					
33	Laurel Pigeon*	<i>Columba junoniae</i>			✓						
34	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
35	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>							✓	✓	
36	Plain Swift **	<i>Apus unicolor</i>		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
37	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>						✓			
38	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>			✓				✓	✓	
39	Tenerife Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major canariensis</i>		H				H			
40	Canary Islands Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus canariensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
41	Canary Islands Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus dacotiae</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓
42	Barbary Falcon	<i>Falco pelegrinoides</i>			✓						
43	Monk Parakeet	<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>								✓	
44	Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>								✓	
45	Southern Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius excubitor koenigi</i>	✓						✓	✓	
46	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax tingitanus</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
47	Fuerteventura Blue Tit*	<i>Cyanistes degener</i>							✓		
48	Tenerife Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes teneriffae</i>	✓		✓	✓					
49	Lesser Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella rufescens polatzeki</i>							✓	✓	
50	Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>								✓	
51	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>							✓		✓
52	Canary Islands Chiffchaff*	<i>Phylloscopus canariensis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
53	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla heineken</i>			✓	✓					
54	Spectacled Warbler	<i>Sylvia conspicillata orbitalis</i>	✓		✓				✓		✓
55	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala leucogastra</i>				✓			✓		✓
56	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula cabreræ</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
57	Tenerife Robin*	<i>Erithacus superbus</i>				✓					
58	Canary Islands Stonechat*	<i>Saxicola dacotiae</i>						✓	✓	✓	✓
59	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
60	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea canariensis</i>	✓			✓				✓	
61	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	
62	Berthelot's Pipit**	<i>Anthus berthelotii berthelotii</i>	✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
63	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs tintillon</i>				✓					
64	Tenerife Blue Chaffinch*	<i>Fringilla teydea</i>						✓			
65	Common Linnet (E. Canaries)	<i>Acanthis cannabina harterti</i>							✓		
66	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis parva</i>			✓				✓		
67	Atlantic Canary**	<i>Serinus canaria</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓
68	Canary Islands Trumpeter Finch	<i>Bucanetes githagineus amantum</i>									✓

Mammals (D = Dead)

1	Algerian Hedgehog	<i>Atelerix algirus</i>								D		
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	Common name	Scientific name	February/March							
			24	25	26	27	28	1	2	3
2	Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>			✓					
3	Short-finned Pilot Whale	<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>			✓					
4	Barbary Ground Squirrel	<i>Atlantoxerus getulus</i>						✓	✓	✓
5	Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>						✓	✓	✓
6	Bat Sp.	-	✓							

Amphibians & Reptiles

1	Boettger's Lizard	<i>Gallotia caesaris</i>			✓					
2	Tenerife Lizard	<i>Gallotia galloti</i>	✓							
3	Atlantic Lizard	<i>Gallotia atlantica</i>						✓		
4	East Canary Gecko	<i>Tarentola angustimentalis</i>							✓	
5	European Pond Terrapin	<i>Emys orbicularis</i>	✓							

Butterflies

1	Canary Islands' Large White	<i>Pieris cheiranthi</i>			✓			✓	✓	
2	Green-striped White	<i>Euchloe belemia</i>						✓		
3	Greenish Black-tip	<i>Euchloe charlonia</i>						✓		
4	Canary Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx cleobule</i>			✓					
5	African Grass Blue	<i>Zizeeria knysna</i>			✓					
6	Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>			✓			✓		
7	Plain Tiger	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i>						✓		
8	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>				✓				
9	Macaronesian Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa indica</i>			✓					
10	Canary Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge xiphioides</i>				✓		✓		

Moths

1	a Pug	<i>Eupithecia rosai</i>			✓					
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Other Invertebrates (N = Nymph)

1	Blue Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>						✓		
2	Lesser Emperor	<i>Anax parthenope</i>						✓		
3	Broad Scarlet	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	✓							
4	Epaulet Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum chrysostigma</i>						✓		
5	Cricket sp.	-			N					
6	Caterpillar Hunting Potter Wasp	<i>Delta dimidiatipenne</i>			✓					
7	Potter Wasp	<i>Ancistrocerus kernerii</i>						✓		
8	Canary Bumble Bee	<i>Bombus canariensis</i>	✓	✓	✓					
9	a Bee	<i>Eucera lanuginosa canariensis</i>						✓		
10	Canary Flower Bee	<i>Anthophora alluaudi</i>			✓			✓		
11	White-banded Digger Bee	<i>Amegilla quadrifasciata</i>		✓						
12	Sand Bee	<i>Andrena spreta</i>						✓		
13	Leaf-cutter Bee	<i>Megachile sicula</i>						✓		
14	Honey Bee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>		✓	✓					
15	Oil Beetle	<i>Meloe tucius</i>				✓				
16	Tropical Tent Web Spider	<i>Cyrtophora citricola</i>						✓		

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Semipalmated Plover