# **Sardinia**

## Naturetrek Tour Report

## 26 April - 3 May 2009







Serapias cordigera





Report and images compiled by John and Jenny Willsher



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Summary: An interesting and varied week on this lovely island, exploring diverse habitats and experiencing the warm hospitality of the Sardinian people. A very wet winter on the island made for lush greenery and abundant flora, with the endemic *Crocus minimus* and some alpine flora on the heights of Brunca Spina and endemic orchids in the lovely wooded valleys of the Forest of Margani, but also the colourful roadside flora of Crown Daisies, Galactites, Mallow-leaved Bindweed and the statuesque umbellifers of Giant Fennel, *Thapsia garganica* and *Magydaris pastinacea*. The varied habitats of saltpans, rocky and sandy coastlines, mountain, scrub, farmland and holm/cork oak woodland provided a good variety of birds. We also explore Nurhagic and Roman sites getting a feel of life in ancient times.

Day 1 Sunday 26th April

Arrive at Cagliari, transfer to hotel at Pula. Afternoon visit to the archaeological site at Nora.

Our early flight arrived on time and we appreciated a light lunch at the hotel before a short afternoon excursion to Nora. The roadsides from Cagliari were edged with *Sedum caeruleum*, the salt lagoons pink with Greater Flamingoes and the hillsides behind the industrial sprawl of Sarroch were white with *Cistus monspeliensis*. As we near Pula the verges were dotted with handsome plants of *Lavatera olbia*, and the umbellifers Giant Fennel (Ferula communis), Thapsia garganica and Magydaris pastinacea.

The hotel had a lush garden of palm trees, with their colonies of chattering Spanish Sparrows, Silver Wattle, Golden Chalice Vine (*Solandra maxima*), Carob and citrus trees, where we heard Nightingale and Serin. After lunch we drove back to Pula and parked near the ruins of the ancient city of Nora. The Phoenicians chose this site for its strategic position and it was later settled by the Carthaginians and Romans. Most of the site is now covered by the sea but there are some Roman columns and well preserved mosaic floors.

Amongst the saltmarsh plants nearby, we found the curious *Cynomorium coccineum*, a parasitic plant with a clublike structure of tightly packed male, female and bisexual flowers. This is the only representative of an otherwise tropical family of plants and at the time of the Crusades it was used to staunch wounds. Birds on the lagoon at Nora included Great White Egret, Little Egrets, 5 Black-winged Stilts, many Audouin's Gulls, Yellow-legged Gulls and a Sandwich Tern. A walk along a bank between lagoons produced several singing Sardinian Warblers one perched on a bush giving good views. There was also a Dartford Warbler in the scrub, Spanish Sparrows and Serins.

## Day 2 Monday 27th April

Optional pre-breakfast walk. Head inland to Domusnovas and the Forest of Margani, exploring other habitats along the way

Some took an early morning walk outside the grounds of the hotel walking down to the beach and northwards to the top of a small hill with a view of the bay north to Nora. A Nightingale in full song was seen, there were Greenfinch and Serins while on the beach on the piles of the sea grass Posidonia was a Common Sandpiper. A Peregrine Falcon sped past and on top of the hill two Woodlarks were spotted feeding on the ground.

There was a stand of Aleppo Pines (*Pinus halopensis*) and Stone Pines (*P. pinea*) and garrigue plants such as Lentisk (*Pistacia lentiscus*), Prasium (*Prasium majus*), Narrow-leaved Cistus (*C. monspeliensis*) and Stink Aster (*Inula graveolens*) with its pungent foliage, and smaller plants such as the dimunitive Kohlrauscia (*Petrorhagia velutina*), Purple Vipers Bugloss (*Echium plantagineum*), Three-horned Stock (*Mathiola tricuspidata*), a variety of vetches, Mallow-leaved Bindweed (*Convolvulus althaeoides*), Bellardia (*Bellardia trixago*), Yellow bartsia (*Parentucellia viscosa*), the lovely pale yellow *Urospermum dalechampii* with its dark centre in the newly opened flowers and one spike of *Ornothogalum narbonense*.

After breakfast we make a quick provision stop at the supermarket and then we head up the coast towards Cagliari. On the outskirts of Pula we passed a Marsh Harrier hunting in the fields, then turning inland we crossed the industrial zone and salt lagoons where there were numerous Greater Flamingos. Unfortunately the weather was not good so we pressed on towards our destination of the Cixerri Valley. Our first stop was an unassuming road junction, where we found handsome clumps of *Serapias cordigera*, with its dark red lip, a mass of Serapias lingua, with its pale pink lip and *Serapias parviflora*. Last year to our dismay this had just been short to the bare ground by the roadcutters! As it was still cool and overcast we continued on, stopping only for a Hoopoe before invading a small bar in Domusnovas for coffee or hot chocolate.

The main focus of today was the Valle D'Oridda in the Forest of Margani. We were told about this lovely valley, north of the town of Domusnovas, by Giovanni Paulis, the warden at the WWF reserve of Monte Arcosu. Domusnovas is his home town and he recommended a walk in this valley as it is especially rich in orchids. He has found a hybrid Ophrys species which he has named after his wife! We took the vehicles into the forest, and after watching a couple of Woodlarks, parked and enjoyed the walk up the valley. The track sides were dotted with Man Orchid (Aceras/Orchis anthropophorum), Dense-flowered Orchid (Neotinea maculata), then we found Ophrys neglecta, a small version of Sawfly Ophrys, Ophrys morisii, but the orchid that stole the show was Ophrys chestermanii, in many multi-flowered spikes, with its rich brown lip – a Sardinian endemic. We also found Orchis ichnusae and under the trees small groups of Violet Limodore (Limodorum arbortivum) and a few spikes of an Epipactis helleborine.

On the track sides we found Selaginella denticulata, Rusty-backed Fern (Ceterach officinarum), Southern Polypody (Polypodium australe), a large rock draped with Cymbalaria aquitriloba, Herb Robert, Spring Sowbread (Cyclamen repandum) and Three-cornered Leek (A. triquetrum). Firecrests were singing in the woods, and overhead Buzzard and Kestrel were seen. Our picnic was foreshortened by rain so we rapidly packed up and piled back into the vehicles and start our journey home. A stop at a lagoon near Capoterra produced many Greater Flamingoes, 3 Black-winged Stilts, Slender and Black-headed Gulls but the strong wind was against us so it was back to the hotel delayed somewhat by the discovery of at least 3 Golden Orioles in the bushes beside the hotel road.

## Day 3 Tuesday 28th April

Tour of WWF reserve at Monte Arcosu. Walk and birdwatch at Santa Gilla lagoons

An early pre-breakfast walk today produced more singing Nightingales plus Dartford and Sardinian Warblers. A Northern Wheatear was on a fence post, on a canal near the coast a Common Sandpiper was feeding and inland on a shallow flooded area were Green Sandpiper and Grey Heron. Returning to the hotel a Spotted Flycatcher was seen feeding in the pines nearby.

After breakfast we set off, first negotiating our way through Capoterra, on our way to the WWF reserve of Monte Arcosu. On the way in we stop by the river because there are many Bee-eaters hawking insects and sitting on the trees. After our fill of Bee-eaters we met Giovanni, reserve warden and naturalist, who gave us a talk about the reserve, set up to preserve the endemic Sardinian Deer (Servus elaphus corsicanus), but also serving to protect Wildcat, Boar, Marten and Golden Eagle. Giovanni first pointed out the Tree of Shame – a skeleton tree that has been festooned with hundreds of wire traps that have been found in the park. He explained that poaching is a huge problem within the park and 1,000 traps are found every year. The reserve is part of a large forested area with Holm and Cork Oak (Quercus ilex and Q. suber) and maquis shrubs such as Strawberry Tree (Arbutus unedo), Tree Heath (Erica arborea), Lentisk, Carob, Narrow-leaved and Sage-leaved Cistus and Cistus eryocephalus, a recently discovered Sardinian endemic sub-species of C. creticus. After watching a Blue-rock Thrush and a Woodchat Shrike we drove into the centre of the park for a guided walk. Giovanni pointed out other plants such as the tiny Bellium bellidioides, Brimeura fastigiata, Cymbalaria sardoa and Corsican Saxifrage (S. corsica). The track sides were dotted with Tree and Large Mediterranean Spurge (Euphorbia dendroides, E. characias). Birds included Dartford and Sardinian Warblers, Blackcaps, Buzzard, Firecrest, and many Robins.

We lunched at the education centre and then return to the reserve headquarters for postcards etc. We admired the Spanish Sparrow condominium nestboxes then, with Giovanni accompanying us, went to the lagoons at Santa Gilla, where he pointed out many orchids in the damp fields near the lagoons. We found wonderful spikes of *Ophrys apifera*, *Ophrys neglecta*, *Orchis laxiflora* and drifts of *Serapias lingua*. We saw many Greater Flamingoes and a good view of a Spectacled Warbler, and other species included Skylark, Great white Egret, Marsh Harrier, and Corn Bunting.

#### Day 4

### Wednesday 29th April

Transfer to our base in Dorgali, travelling via the Sinis Peninsular

Today we transferred to our base in Dorgali. After an early walk with the usual species, we said farewell to the delightful and helpful staff at our hotel and headed north.

We crossed the industrial zone again with glimpses of Flamingo and Slender-billed Gulls in the lagoons, and then cut across to the main road to Oristano. We turned off the main road just south of Oristano to look at some salt marsh lagoons. Here we saw a distant Red-crested Pochard, more Black-winged Stilts and we had a good view of a Purple Heron carrying off a snake/eel. We found an excellent picnic site behind a beach where there were seats and a table and some very flower rich sand dunes. We found Three-horned Stock, Sea Stock, the tiny flowered Maresia, (Maresia nana), the sticky Ononis diffusa, Linum trygynum, ? L. maritinum, Sea Holly, Paronychia and Sea Plantain. We also found many clumps of leaves of the autumn flowering Sea Daffodil (Pancratium maratinum). The beach is strewn with the 'kiwi fruit' balls formed from fibres from the sea grass Posidonia oceanica.

Our next stop was further up the peninsular, on the road verge we found Mirror of Venus Orchids (*Ophrys speculum*) and among the Grey-leaved Cistus, *Ophrys eleanora* and some Serapias. Our last stop before the last leg of our journey, was at Pitzu Idu, where some of the group indulged in ice creams. Behind the ice cream shop the lagoon had good water levels with nesting Avocets and Black-winged Stilts, Shelduck, good views of Slender-billed Gulls and of course many more Greater Flamingos. We arrived at Dorgali in the late afternoon to a warm welcome from our hosts, the family Troncia.

#### Day 5

### **Thursday 30th April**

Boat trip from Cala Gonone to Cala di Luna and exploration of the gorge of the Rio Codula di Luna

The weather forecast for today was best for our boat trip option so we drove through the hills south of Dorgali, taking the tunnel through to the pretty coastal town of Cala Gonone and took the boat trip to along the cliffs south of Cala di Luna. Our target was Eleonora's Falcons but sadly we were a few days too early and only one very distant bird is seen on the clifftop There are however some Mediterranean Shearwaters and many Shags, some roosting on the rocks close to the boat.

We return to Cala Luna and disembark onto the beach. On the rocks at the back of the small beaches we passed were spikes of Illyrian Sea Lily (*Pancratium illyricum*). After landing at Cala Luna we had to negotiate a shallow lagoon so we all gathered bits of driftwood to make a walkway. We were hoping that the seasonal café would be open but it is still 'work in progress' so we head into the gorge. The path is not very obvious because winter rains have washed debris and stones down the track. There is much Oleander (*Nerium oleander*) with Elder (*Sambucus nigra*), Manna Ash (*Fraxinus orinus*), Carob and Wild Olive growing on the gorge floor. We found Corsican Hellebore (*H. argutifolious*) and on the walls grow dwarf shrubs such as Prasium, the endemic *Stachys glutinosa*, with its sticky and unpleasant smelling foliage, twisted juniper trunks, Tree Spurge, Rosemary and Fringed Rue (*Ruta chalapensis*). On small ledges on a cliff face we saw St Bernards Lily (*Anthericum liliago*), Wild Gladioli (*G. italicus*) and alliums. We also found the pretty endemic *Centaurea filifolia* and Swallow-wort (*Vincetoxicum hirundiaria*). Alpine Swifts, Swifts and Crag Martins where feeding at the mouth of the gorge, and a single Eleonora's Falcon flew along the top of the cliff. Many Blackcaps were singing, 2 Ravens flew over, then a Sparrowhawk, and later a Scops Owl was heard calling.

We found a shady place for our picnic, but then had to don waterproofs before returning, finding that the café was open now. Around the café the trees and shrubs are sometimes good for small migrant birds but today just a Whitethroat was feeding.

Amongst the shrubs are handsome spikes of Hoary Mullein (*Verbascum pulverulentum*) and Giant Fennel. As we waited at the jetty a Common Sandpiper was seen then on the boat back a large gathering of Shags was fishing in a tight group on the sea.

On our return to Cala Gonone we visited the nuraghe site at Mannu, one of the few clifftop Nuraghe sites. The guide gave us an illuminating overview of the Nuraghe culture and then we wandered through the ruins marvelling at the spectacular position.

Day 6 Friday 1st May

Drive to Bruncu Spina, for walk and picnic in Monte del Gennargentu

On an early walk beside the hotel, in the Cork Oak trees, we see two Hawfinches - one carrying twig material. Further down a track nearby, Turtle Doves and a Cuckoo are singing and Jays are active amongst the Olive trees. As it is May Day we headed inland, hoping to avoid crowds, to one of the highest points in the sprawling Gennargentu National Park, which has some of the wildest and most mountainous landscapes in Sardinia. It was very tempting to stop in many places – fields of Asphodels, banks of Lavender, small drifts of orchids. However the sight of Bee-eaters on the wires beside the road brings us to a halt and we watch them gliding over the riverside meadow.

We passed through some interesting villages and towns on our way. Oliena is reputed to produce one of the islands finest wines; Orgosolo, bandit capital of Sardinia!—where disputes between the roving sheep farmers and the more settled crop farmers made for much sheep rustling and bloody vendettas, and famous also for its murals and finally Fonni, Sardinia's highest village. A bank of purple orchids proved too hard to resist and we stopped to find and photograph wonderful spikes of *Orchis longicornu*, Pink Butterfly Orchids, some hybrids between these two and the yellow *Orchis provincialis*. We also found *Leucojum aestivum*. Crag Martins were investigating a bridge, a Stonechat is spotted and Nightingales plus a Cirl Bunting were singing nearby. Our picnic spot was near one of the many springs that locals collect water from. There is a very convenient table in the shade with room for a full Naturetrek group! In the grass around the spring were a mass of *Ornithagalum exscapum* and *O. corsicum* and more orchids including the yellow *Dactyloriza insularis*. Woodlarks provided the musical accompaniment.

Then we headed up to Bruncu Spina, the second highest peak in the park. As we get higher we begin to see small drifts of the endemic *Crocus minimus*. We also find Rock Cinquefoil and small cushions of *Saxifraga cervicornis* just about to flower. Birds at the top include a pair of Rock Thrushes, Water Pipit, Cirl Bunting and many Ravens. Most of the group takes the opportunity to have a good walk down the road enjoying stunning mountain views, meeting up again at a small wood where the endemic Peony (*Peaonia mascula ssp russi*) is just coming into flower. Just below the wood is a grazed verge studded with the purple *Romulea requienii*, more *O. exscapum* and *Orchis lactea*. Two Citril Finches flew around us and a Tawny Pipit was seen.

We wend our way back to Dorgali stopping in Orgosolo to take photos of the wall murals. These colourful and arresting art pieces, with their political, satirical or social themes, began to appear in the town in the 1960's and soon became a feature in other towns and on the rocks outside the towns also.

#### Day 7

### Sunday 2nd May

Visit to Nuraghic site of Serra Orrios, then walk and picnic on the beach at Cala Osalla. Afternoon walk on cliff path above Cala Gonone

Our last full day in Sardinia! First stop was for a Woodchat Shrike on a roadside wire and then on to the Nuraghic site at Serra Orrios, just north of Dorgali. The guide lent us a book and there was a photographic display which gave us a flavour of how life was lived here in approximately 1,000BC. This well preserved village site illustrated how a typical community was organised. In the damp patches amongst the ruins we found Mediterranean Water Dropwort (Oenanthe globulosa), Lythrum junceum (not in flower), L. thymifolia, and Lesser Spearwort (Ranunculus flammula), and on the walls Tolpis barbata, Rustyback Fern, a Cheilanthes sp, and along the path to the site is Clematis cirrhosa.

After coffee in the well-placed café, we headed for Grotto Ispinioli where we explored the gravely garrigue for flowers. Amongst the cistus scrub was masses of Mirror of Venus Orchids. Then we wended our way along a mountain road to the beach at Cala Osalla, stopping to look at an obliging Little Owl. After lunch a few of the group had a paddle and after watching a very obliging Eleonora's Falcon hunting insects just above us we headed for a walk along the cliff side north of Cala Gonone. Here we walk along the cliff track north of the town, enjoying spectacular views along the coast. A Barbary Partridge was seen and the usual Sardinian Warblers were vocal. In places along the track are masses of *Nigella damascena*, a few spikes of Branched Broomrape (*Orobanche ramosa*) and Tree Euphorbia, Mastic Tree and Juniper. We returned via Cala Gonone to try welcome ice creams at the gelateria!

Our last stop for the day was to look at the roadsides near Dorgali where we added a few more orchids to our list including Giant Orchid (Himantoglossum (Barlia) robertianum), Ophrys sicula and Ophrys zonata.

Day 8 Monday 3rd May

Return to Cagliari for return flights to Gatwick

We had an early start and the hotel laid on a buffet breakfast in the bar. We left promptly at 6 am and head south to Cagliari, and made good time on our journey to the airport.

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## **Species Lists**

#### Birds (H = heard only)

	Common name		April/May								
	Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	1	2		
1	Great Crested Grebe	Podiceps cristatus				2					
2	Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis				1					
3	Mediterranean Shearwater	Puffinus yelkoan					1				
4	Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo		1							
5	Shag	Phalacrocorax aristotelis				1	✓		+		
6	Great White Egret	Ardea alba	1		2						
7	Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis			6	+					
8	Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	3	✓	✓	✓	3				
9	Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea			1						
10	Purple Heron	Ardea purpurea				1					
11	Greater Flamingo	Phoenicopterus ruber	200+	✓	✓	✓			✓		
12	Shelduck	Tadorna tadorna				3					
13	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	3	1	✓	1					
14	Red-crested Pochard	Netta rufina				1					
15	Marsh Harrier	Circus aeruginosus		2	2	1					
16	Sparrowhawk	Accipiter nisus					1				
17	Buzzard	Buteo buteo	2	1	2	1	1	✓	2		
18	Peregrine	Falco peregrinus		1							
19	Eleonora's Falcon	Falco eleonorae					1		1		
20	Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus	1	✓	✓	<b>✓</b>	1	✓	<b>✓</b>		
21	Barbary Partridge	Alectoris barbara			1				1		
22	Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus			1						
23	Coot	Fulica atra		2	✓	✓					
24	Black-winged Stilt	Himantopus himantopus	5	3	✓	<b>✓</b>					
25	Avocet	Recurvirostra avosetta			4	<b>✓</b>					
26	Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos		1	1	1	1				
27	Sandwich Tern	Sterna sandvicensis	1								
28	Slender-billed Gull	Larus genei	✓		✓	✓					
29	Black-headed Gull	Larus ridibundus		✓		2					
30	Audouin's Gull	Larus audouinii	30+			1					
31	Yellow-legged Gull	Larus cachinnans	✓	✓	✓	<b>✓</b>	✓	<b>✓</b>			
32		Sterna sandvicensis	1								
33	Gull-billed Tern	Gelochelidon nilotica			6						
34	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	✓								
35	Wood Pigeon	Columba palumbus				✓	1	✓	✓		
36	Feral Pigeon / Rock Dove	Columba livia		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
37	Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto		1		✓	✓	✓	✓		
38	Turtle Dove	Streptopelia turtur		✓	✓	<b>✓</b>		✓	<b>✓</b>		
39	Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus	Н					1	Н		
40	Scops Owl	Otus scops					Н				
41	Little Owl	Athene noctua							1		
42	Alpine Swift	Apus melba						✓	✓		
43	Pallid Swift	Apus pallidus							3		
44	Swift	Apus apus	✓	✓	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	✓	✓		
45	Bee-eater	Merops apiaster			8		Н	<b>✓</b>	Н		
46	Ноорое	Upupa epops		2		Н		Н			
47	Wryneck	Jynx torquilla			Н	1					

	Common name	Scientific name	April/May								
			26	27	28	29	30	1	2		
48	Great-spotted Woodpecker	Dendrocopus major		Н			Н				
49	Skylark	Alauda arvensis			1			1			
50	Woodlark	Lullula arborea		4				1	✓		
51	Crag Martin	Ptyonoprogne rupestris				1	✓	✓	✓		
52	Swallow	Hirundo rustica	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
53	House Martin	Delichon urbica	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
54	Water Pipit	Anthus spinoletta						1			
55	Tawny Pipit	Anthus campestris						1			
56	Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	1		Н	1	Н	✓	Н		
57	Robin	Erithacus rubecula		Н	✓		Н	1	1		
58	Nightingale	Luscinia megarhynchos	Н	✓	✓	✓		Н	Н		
59	Whinchat	Saxicola rubetra			5	1			1		
60	Stonechat	Saxicola torquata		1				3			
61	Northern Wheatear	Oenanthe oenanthe		1							
62	Rock Thrush	Monticola saxatilis						2			
63	Blue Rock Thrush	Monticola solitarius			1						
64	Blackbird	Turdus merula	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
65	Mistle Thrush	Turdus viscivorus							1		
66	Fan-tailed Warbler	Cisticola juncidis	Н		Н	Н					
67	Cetti's Warbler	Cettia cetti			Н	Н		Н	Н		
68	Dartford Warbler	Sylvia undata	1		1						
69	Spectacled Warbler	Sylvia conspicillata			1						
70	Whitethroat	Sylvia communis					1				
71	Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla	3	1	<b>✓</b>	Н	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>		
72	Sardinian Warbler	Sylvia melanocephala	4	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>√</b>	Н	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>		
73	Firecrest	Regulus ignicapillus	<u> </u>	1	2						
74	Spotted Flycatcher	Muscicapa striata		1	1			1			
75	Blue Tit	Cyanistes caeruleus		·	2			· ✓			
76	Great Tit	Parus major		Н	Н			<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>		
77	Woodchat Shrike	Lanius senator			1			1	4		
78	Spotless Starling	Sturnus unicolor	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	· ✓	<b>√</b>		· ✓	· /		
79	· •	Oriolus oriolus		3					1		
80	Jay	Garrulus glandarius			1	1	2	<b>√</b>	· ✓		
81	Raven	Corvus corax			1		2	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		
82	Hooded Crow	Corvus corone cornix	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	· ·	<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>		
83	Jackdaw	Corvus monedula				✓ ·					
84	Spanish Sparrow	Passer hispaniolensis	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	· ✓	<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>		
85	Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	•	· ✓	· ✓	Н	· ✓	<b>✓</b>	<b>√</b>		
86	Hawfinch	Coccothraustes coccothraustes				- ' '	1	2	Н		
87	Citril Finch	Serinus citrinella					1	2	- ' '		
88	Serin	Serinus serinus	4	<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>		Н		
89	Greenfinch	Carduelis chloris	<del></del>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>→</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>11</b> ✓		
90	Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis	•	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>		
90	Linnet	Acanthis cannabina		,	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>		,	ļ ,		
92	Corn Bunting	Miliaria calandra		<b>✓</b>	<b>∨</b>	<b>✓</b>		<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>		
	-	Emberiza cirlus			<b>,</b>	<b>,</b>		<b>∨</b>	<b>∨</b>		
93	Cirl Bunting	LITIDETIZA CITIUS		1				_ <b>v</b>			

#### Mammals

European Rabbit	Oryctolagus cuniculus			3	

				Α	pril/Ma	у		
Common name	Scientific name	26	27	28	29	30	1	2

#### Reptiles

1	Tyrrhenian Wall Lizard	Podarcis tiliguerta tiliguerta	✓	✓		✓	✓
2	Whip Snake	Coluber viridiflavus		1			
3	Sardinian Tree Frog	Hyla sarda			1		
4	Sardinian Skink	Chalcides ocellatus tiligugu					1

#### **Butterflies**

1	Swallowtail	Papilio machaon	1		1	1			
2	Large White	Pieris brassicae			✓				
3	Small White	Artogeia rapae			2	✓			✓
4	Orange Tip	Anthocharis cardamines				1		1	
5	Clouded Yellow	Colias crocea			✓	1			✓
6	Small Copper	Lycaena phlaeus			1	1		✓	✓
7	Common Blue	Polyommatus icarus				1			✓
8	Painted Lady	Cynthia cardui	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Small Heath	Coenonympha pamphilus							✓
10	Speckled Wood	Pararge aegeria				1	✓		✓
11	Cleopatra	Gonepteryx cleopatra			✓				✓
12	Corsican Swallowtail	Papillon hospiton							✓
13	Corsican Wall Brown	Lasiommata paramegaera							✓

#### **Plants**

Selaginellaceae

Selaginella denticulata Mediterranean Selaginella Seen regularly

Equisetaceae Horsetails

Equisetum ramossisumum

**Sinapteridaceae** Cheilanthes vellea

Adiantum capillaris-veneris Maidenhair Fern

HypolepidaceaeBrackensPteridium aquilinumBracken

Aspleniaceae Spleenworts

Asplenium trichomanes Maidenhair Spleenwort
Asplenium adiantum-nigrum Black Spleenwort

Asplenium onopteris Acute-leaved Spleenwort

Ceterach officinarum Rusty-back Fern

Polypodiaceae Polypodys

Polypodium australeSouthern PolypodyPolypodium vulgareCommon polypody

#### **CONIFERS & ALLIES**

PinaceaePinesPinus pinasterMaritime PinePinus halepensisAlepppo Pine

Gennargentu Park

Pinus pinea Stone Pine

Cupressaceae Cypresses and allies

Cupressus sempervirensItalian CypressJuniperus communisCommon JuniperJuniperus oxycedrusPrickly JuniperJuniperus phoeniceaPhoenicean Juniper

**FLOWERING PLANTS** 

Rafflesiaceae Rafflesias

Cytinus hypocystis Cytinus Monte Arcosu

BetulaceaeBirches and alliesAlnus glutinosaCommon Alder

Corylus avellana Hazel

Fagaceae Beeches and oaks

Castenea sativa Sweet Chestnut Gennargentu Park

Quercus cocciferaKermes OakQuercus ilexHolm OakQuercus pubescensDowny Oak

Quercus suber Cork Oak

Moraceae Mulberry and allies

Ficus carica Fig

Urticaceae Nettles

Urtica dioica Common Nettle
Urtica pilulifera Roman Nettle

Urtica membranacea

Parietaria officinalis Pellitory

Aristolochiaceae Birthwort Family

Aristolochia tyrrena Gorge at Cala Luna

Cactaceae Cacti

Opuntia ficus-indica Prickly Pear

PolygonaceaeKnotweedsPolygonum maritimumSea KnotweedRumex acetosaCommon Sorrel

Chenopodiaceae Goosefoots and allies

Atriplex prostrata?Spear-leaved OracheNoraHalimione portulacoidesSea Purslane"Suaeda fruticosa [=vera]Shrubby Seablite"

AizoaceaeMesembryanthemumsCarpobrutus acinaciformisRed Hottentot Fig

Caryophyllaceae Pinks and allies

Silene alba White Campion Nr Cagliari

Petrorhagia velutinaKohlrauschiaParonychia capitataParonychia?Spergularia rubraSand Spurrey

Silene gallica Small-flowered Catchfly

Silene colorata ? Silene cretica

Ranunculaceae Buttercups

Helleborus argutifolius Corsican Hellebore Gorge at Cala Luna

Anemone hortensis

Clematis cirrhosa Virgin's Bower Serra Orrios

Clematis vitalba Traveller's Joy
Ranunculus ficaria ssp. ficaria Lesser Celandine
Ranunculus sceleratus Celery-leaved Crowfoot

Ranunculus flammulla Lesser Spearwort Serra Orrios

Papaveraceae Poppies

Papaver setigerum [=somniferum ssp.
An Opium Poppy

Setigerum]
Papaver rhoeas
Red Poppy

Papaver hybridum Prickly Round-headed

Glaucium flavum Poppy
Yellow Horned Poppy

Hypecoum procumbens Cala Luna

Paeoniaceae Peony Family

Paeonia mascula ssp russii Bruncu Spina

Fumariaceae Fumitories

Fumaria capreolataWhite Ramping FumitoryFumaria officionalisCommon Fumitory

Brassicaceae Mustards and allies

Malcolmia sinuata Sea Stock

Mathiola triscupidataThree-horned StockArabis vernaSpring Rockcress

Lobularia maritima Sweet Alison
Capsella bursa-pastoris Shepherd's Purse

Biscutella didyma

Hirschfeldia incana Hoary Mustard
Sisymbrium officinale Hedge Mustard
Cakile maritima Sea Kale
Raphanus raphanistrum Wild Radish
Eruca sativa Eruca
Maresia nana Maresia

Isatis tinctoria Woad Roadsides

Calpina irregularis White Ball Mustard

ResedaceaeMignonettesReseda albaWhite Mignonette

CrassulaceaeStonecropsUmbilicus rupestrisNavelwortSedum acreBiting StonecropSedum caeruleumBlue Stonecrop

Sedum dasyphyllum Thick-leaved Stonecrop Above Cala Ganone

Saxifragaceae Saxifrages

Saxifraga corsica Corsican Saxifrage Monte Arcosu

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Monte Arcosu

Saxifraga granulata

Meadow Saxifrage

Saxifraga servicorcis

Brunco Spina

Cala Osalla

RosaceaeRosesRubus ulmifoliusBlackberryRosa caninaDog RoseRosa arvensisField RoseSanguisorba minorSalad BurnetAphanes arvensisParsley Piert?Pyrus amyqdaliformisAlmond-leaved Pear

Crataegus monogyna Hawthorn

Eriobotrya japonica Japanese Loquat

Prunus dulcis Almond

Potentilla rupestris Rock Cinquefoil Brunca Spina

Fabaceae Pea family

Acacia dealbata Hotel Costa dei Fiori

Acacia longifolia

Anagyris foetida Bean Trefoil
Cercis siliquastrum Judas Tree

Ceratonia siliqua Carob or Locust Tree

Calycotome spinosaSpiny BroomSpartium junceumSpanish Broom

Lupinus angustifolius Narrow-leaved Lupin Monte Arcosu

Lupinus micranthus (=hirsutus) Hairy Lupin

Robinia pseudoacacia Robinia, False Acaacia Roadsides

Vicia villosaFodder VetchVicia tetraspermaSmooth TareVicia sativaCommon VetchVicia luteaYellow Vetch

Vicia benghalensis Pink Fodder Vetch Nr Cagliari

Lathyrus cicera

Lathyrus clymenum Bi-colour Pea

Lathyrus setifolius

Ononis diffusa Sticky Restharrow' Sinis
Ononis natrix Large Yellow Restharrow Cala Osalla

Melilotis indicusSmall MelilotMedicago marinaSea Medick

Medicago arabica Spotted Medick Medicago polymorpha **Toothed Medick** Trifolium repens White Clover Trifolium fragiferum Strawberry Clover Trifolium tomentosum Woolly Clover Hop Trefoil Trifolium campestre Trifolium arvense Hare's-foot Clover Trifolium stellatum Starry Clover

Trifolium angustifolium Narrow-leaved Crimson

Clover

Trifolium resupinatum Reversed Clover
Lotus subbiflorus Hairy Bird's-foot Trefoil

Lotus cytisoides

Tetragonolobus purpureus Dragons Teeth

Tetragonolobus maritimus Winged Asparagus Pea

Anthyllis vulneraria Kidney Vetch Scorpiurus muricatus Caterpillar Plant

Bruncu Spina

Hedysarum coronariumItalian SainfoinPsoralea bituminoseaBitumen Pea

Hippocrepis unisiliquosa

Hymenocarpus circinatus Disk Trefoil

Ornithopus compressus

Compressed Birds-foot
Trefoil

Bisserula pelicinus Bisserula

Astragalus genargenteus

Dorycnium hirsuta Dorycnium

Dorycnium pentaphyllum

Oxalidaceae Sorrels

Oxalis pes-caprae Bermuda Buttercup

Geraniaceae Cranesbills

Geranium rotundifoliumRound-leaved CranesbillGeranium molleDove's-foot CranesbillGeranium lucidumShining CranesbillGeranium robertianumHerb RobertGeranium purpureumLittle Robin

Erodium ciconium Long-beaked Stork's-bill Erodium cicutarium Common Storks-bill

Linaceae Flaxes
Linum bienne Pale Flax

?Linum matitinum Linum trigynum

EuphorbiaceaeSpurgesEuphorbia dendroidesTree SpurgeEuphorbia paraliasSea Spurge

Euphorbia characias Large Mediterranean

Euphorbia characias Spurge
Euphorbia helioscopia Sun Spurge

Euphorbia cupanni Margani

Rutaceae Rues

Ruta chalepensis Fringed Rue

Anacardiaceae

Pistachia lentiscus Mastic Tree

Pistachia terebrinthus Turpentine Tree Serra Orrios

Rhamnaceae Buckthorn Family

Rhamnus alaternus Mediterranean Buckthorn Monte Arcosu

HippocastanaceaeHorse ChestnutsAesculus hippocastanumHorse Chestnut

AquifoliaceaeHolliesIlex aquifoliumHolly

MalvaceaeMallowsMalva creticaCretan MallowMalva sylvestrisCommon MallowLavatera arboreaTree Mallow

Violaceae Violets

?Viola riviniana Common Dog-violet

?Viola valdera Brunca Spina

Guttiferae Hypericum Family

Hypericum perfoliatum ? Hypericum australe

Cistaceae Rock-roses

Cistus albidus Grey-leaved Cistus
Cistus incanus A pink cistus

Cistus monspeliensis Narrow-leaved Cistus
Cistus salvifolius Sage-leaved Cistus

Cistus crispus

Tuberaria guttataSpotted RockroseFumana arabicaArabian Fumana

TamaricaceaeTamarisksTamarix africanaPale TamariskTamarix gallicaTamarisk

CucurbitaceaeCucumber familyBryonia acutaA white bryonyEcballium elateriumSquirting Cucumber

Myrtaceae Myrtles and gums

Myrtus communis Myrtle

Balanophoraceae

Cynomorium coccineum Nora

Apiaceae Umbellifers

Eryngium campestre Field Eryngium

Eryngium maritimum Sea Holly Cala Osalla

Scandix australis

Southern Shepherd'sneedle

Scandix pectin-veneris Shepherd's-needle

Smyrnium olusatrum Alexanders

Smyrnium rotundifolium Round-leaved Alexanders

Crithmum maritimum Rock Samphire

Oenanthe fistulosa Tubular Water-dropwort

Apium nodiflorum Fool's Water-cress
Ferula communis Giant Fennel

Torilis nodosa Knotted Bur-parsley

Daucus carota Wild Carrot

Magdyris pastinacea Roadsides

Thapsia garganica

Ammoides pusilla Ammoides

Ericaceae Heathers

Erica arborea Tree Heather Monte Arcosu

Arbutus unedo Strawberry Tree

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Serra Orrios

Primulaceae Primulas and allies

Cyclamen repandum Spring Sowbread
Anagallis arvensis Scarlet Pimpernel
A. arvensis ssp. caerulea (=foemina) Blue Pimpernel

Oleaceae Olive and allies

Fraxinus ornus Manna Ash Gorge at Cala Luna

Olea europaea Olive (wild)

Phyllyrea latifolia Monte Arcosu

Gentianaceae Gentians

Blackstonia acuminata

Blackstonia perfoliata Yellow-wort

Apocynaceae Periwinkles

Nerium oleander Oleander (not in flower)

Asclepiadaceae Milkweed family

Vincetoxicum hirundinaria Swallow-wort Gorge at Cala Luna

RubiaceaeMaddersSherardia arvensisField MadderCruciata laevipesCrosswortRubia peregrinaWild Madder

Galium setaceum Gorge wall at Cala Luna

ConvolvulaceaeBindweedsCucuta palaestrinaLesser Dodder

Convolvulus althaeoides Mallow-leaved Bindweed

Convulvulus arvensis Bindweed

Boraginaceae Borage and allies

Cerinthe majorHoneywortAlkanna luteaYellow AlkanetEchium italicumPale Bugloss

Echium parviflorum

Teucrium subspinosum

Echium plantagineum Purple Viper's Bugloss

Borago officinalis Borage

Cynoglossum creticum Blue Hound's-tongue

Lamiaceae Dead-nettles

Sideritis romana Above Cala Ganone

Prasium majus Prasium

Lamium amplexicaule Henbit Deadnettle Glechoma sardoa Sardinian Ground-ivy

Rosmarinus officinalis Rosemary

Lavandula stoechas Mediterranean Lavender

Salvia verbenaca Wild Clary

Stachys viscosa

Solanaceae Nightshades and allies

Lycium europaeum Tea Tree Santa Gilla Lagoons

Solanum nigrum Black Nightshade
Datura stramonium Thorn Apple

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Gorge walls at Cala Luna, Nr Cala Ganone

Nr Cala Gonone

Scrophulariaceae Figworts and allies

Misopates orontiumWeasels SnoutLinaria pelisserianaJersey Toadflax

Cymbalaria aequitriloba Margani

Cymbalaria sardoa (=aequitriloba?)

Sardinian Ivy-leaved
Toadflax

Foxglove

Monte Arcosu
Leaves only

Veronica persica Common Field Speedwell

Veronica cymbalaria
Parentucellia viscosa
Yellow Bartsia

Parentucellia latifolia Southern Bartsia
Bellardia trixago Bellardia

Scrophularia peregrina Nettle-leaved Figwort

Verbascum conocarpumroadsidesVerbascum pulverulentumHoary MulleinCala Luna

Orobanchaceae Broomrapes

Orabanche amythystea
Orobanche ramosa
Branched Broomrape

Myoporaceae Myoporum Family

Myoporum laetum Ngaio Sinis

Plantaginaceae Plantains

Plantago coronopusBuck's-horn PlantainPlantago lanceolataRibwort PlantainPlantago indica (=afra)Branched Plantain

Plantago maritima Sea Plantain Sinis

Caprifoliaceae Elders and allies

Sambucus nigra Elder

Lonicera implexa A honeysuckle

Lonicera estrusca

Evax pygmaea

Valerianaceae Valerians and allies

Centranthus calcitrapa

Dipsacus ferox A teazel
Valerianella discoidea Corn Salad

AsteraceaeDaisies and alliesArtemesia arborscensShrubby WormwoodBellis sylvestrisSouthern DaisyBellis perennisCommon Daisy

Bellium bellidioides (?crassifolium) Monte Arcosu ?Bellium crassifolium Margani

Evax

Centaureum filiformis Gorge walls at Cala Luna

Chrysanthemum coronarium Crown Daisy Senecio vulgaris Groundsel

Senecio vulgarisGroundselCalendula arvensisField MarigoldCarduus tenuiflorusSlender ThistleCirsium vulgareSpear ThistleSilybum marianumMilk Thistle

Galactites tomentosa Galactites Widespread

Hypochoeris radicata

Urospermum dalechampii Ptilostemon casabonae

Rhagadiolis stellattus Taraxacum sp. Tolpis barbata

Common Cat's-ear

Urospermum Roadsides Margani

Star Hawkbit Dandelion Tolpis

Posidoniaceae

Posidonia oceanica

Posidonia family

Dead leaves and 'kiwi fruits' found on the Posidonia

beach

Liliaceae

Asphodelus aestivus (=microcarpus)

Asphodel fistulosas Anthericum liliago Gagea foliosa

Ornithogalum exscapum Ornithogalum corsicum Urginea maritima

Brimeura fastigiata Leopoldia comosa Allium neopolitanum Allium roseum

Allium subhirsutum Allium triquetrum Ruscus aculeatus Smilax aspera

Lilies and allies

St Bernards Lily

Common Asphodel Hollow-leaved Asphodel

a Star of Bethlehem a Star of Bethlehem Sea Squill (leaves only)

Tassel Hyacinth

Naples Garlic Rosy Garlic

Three-cornered Leek Butcher's Broom

Roadside at Cagliari Airport Gorge walls at Cala Luna

Brunca Spina

Monte Arcosu

Roadsides

Agavaceae

Agave americana

Sisal family Century Plant

Amaryllidaceae Pancratium illyricum

Pancratium maratinum

**Daffodils and allies** 

Illyrian Sea-lily

Sea Daffodil (leaves only)

Dioscoraceae Tamus communis Yam family Black Bryony

Iridaceae

Gynandiris sisyrhynchium Crocus minimus

Romulea requiennii

Gladiolus italicus [=segetum]

**Irises Barbary Nut** 

A crocus Abundant on Brunca Spina

Junaceae

Juncus acutus Juncus anceps Rushes

Sharp Rush

Field Gladiolus

Poaceae

Grasses

Cynosurus echinatus Rough Dogs-tail Lamarckia aurea Golden Dog's-tail Briza maxima Large Quaking Grass Briza media **Quaking Grass** Briza minor **Small Quaking Grass** 

Festuca arundinacea Tall Fescue

Aegilops geniculata

Phragmites australisCommon ReedArundo donaxGiant ReedPhalaris sp.A canary-grass

Parapholis incurva Curved Sea Hardgrass

Imperata cylindrica

PalmaePalmsPhoenix dactyliferaDate PalmChamaerops humilisDwarf Fan Palm

Araceae Arums

Arisarum vulgare Friar's Cowl Margani

Arum italicum

Arum pictum Autumn Arum Leaves and berries only

TyphaceaeReed-macesTypha latifoliaReed Mace

Orchidaceae Orchids

Epipactis helleborineBroad-leaved HelleborineMarganiOphrys eleonoraeSinis

Ophrys zonata Dorgali
Ophrys sicula "

Ophrys speculum Mirror Orchid Sinis, Ispinigoli (masses)

Ophrys bombyliflora Bumble Bee Orchid Monte Arcosu

Ophrys neglecta Margani, Ispinigoli

Ophrys apifera Bee Orchid Santa Gilla, Ispinigoli

Ophrys chestermanii Margani
Ophrys annae "

Ophrys morisii ", Ispinigoli, Dorgali

Serapias cordigera Ixerri Valley

Serapias lingua Common Tongue Orchid Serapias parviflora Small Flowered Serapias

Himantoglossum robertiana Giant Orchid Dorgali

 Neotinea maculata
 Dense-flowered Orchid
 Margani, Dorgali

 Dactylorhiza insularis
 Brunca Spina

 Orchis laxiflora
 Loose Flowered Orchid
 Santa Gilla

 Orchis langiograph
 Long appured Orchid
 Brunca Spina

Orchis longicornu Long-spurred Orchid Brunca Spina

Orchis papilionacea Pink Butterfly Orchid
Orchis pap.xlongicornu

Orchis ichnusae Margani
Orchis provincialis Provence Orchid Brunca Spina

Orchis lactea Milky Orchid "

Aceras anthropophorum Man Orchid Margani, Dorgali

Limodorum abortivum Violet Bird's-nest Orchid Margani