



Honeyguide

WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

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Menorca
13 – 20 April 2018

Participants

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From the Salisbury & District Natural History Society

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Leader

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Report and photos, all taken during the holiday, by Chris Gibson.

Cover: giant fennel, Italian sainfoin, white asphodels;
Chinese oak silk-moth, golden-striped tortoise-beetles, hoopoe;
behind Son Bou, crown daisies.

Below: lunch on the last day.

Our base at Matchani Gran: <http://menorcacountryhouse.com>

Joining the group during the week were Carlos Coll, President of GOB, and his wife Deborah.
(*Grup Balear d'Ornitologia i Defensa de la Naturalesa*).



This holiday, as for every Honeyguide holiday, also puts something into conservation in our host country by way of a contribution to the wildlife that we enjoyed. The conservation contribution this year of £40 per person was supplemented by gift aid through the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust, leading to a total of £520 given to the Grup Balear d'Ornitologia i Defensa de la Naturalesa (GOB Menorca – see www.gobmenorca.com/english).

This year's donation brings the total given to GOB since the first Honeyguide holiday in Mallorca in 1992 to £11,038. The total for conservation contributions from all Honeyguide holidays as at April 2018 was £121,591.

DAILY DIARY

Friday 13 April: the way there and local walk around Matchani Gran

A very early start at Gatwick brought us to Mahón by 10am, where our host Lawrence met us with the DonCars rep. After loading the vans, it was straight to Matchani Gran, just ten minutes' drive away, for unpacking and rest before lunch. The weather was actually pretty similar to home, albeit a shade warmer: low cloud with a hint of rain in the air, and the island looked very green and flowery, indicative of the wet spring so far.

A splendid lunch of Menorcan meatballs or salmon set the culinary tone for the week – lovely! – as the rain turned torrential. But just as we finished, so did the rain, and we ventured out into the fields between the farmhouse and the airport, an opportunity for orientation and getting to grips with the local wildlife, some familiar, others not so.



The driveway to our base at Matchani Gran, and group members in the fields after lunch.

A nightingale sang from the Wild Wood, along with blackcaps and Cetti's warblers, despite the breeze and dull conditions, and a common redstart suggested that at least some northern migrants were moving through. Thekla larks and an obliging tawny pipit in the fields provided some of the less-familiar fare, along with numerous Sardinian warblers, skulking and scolding, a calling hoopoe, and a Balearic woodchat shrike, while overhead common swifts were moving through, and red kites and booted eagles searching the landscape for food.

Albeit overgrazed, as evidenced by the abundance of asphodels, the fields still had plenty of botanical interest, with small-flowered tongue, sawfly, mirror, yellow bee and pyramidal orchids (and a few very dead giant orchids), in many cases getting some protection from munching mouths by growing through spiny shrubs. In contrast, the defence of the cudweed-like *Evax pygmaea* was to grow firmly appressed to the ground. Whole swathes were turned blue with the wispy spikes of tassel hyacinth, while the shady tracksides had an abundance of introduced (and over-populous) Bermuda-buttercup (definitely not what it says on the tin, being a wood-sorrel from South Africa) lending a sickly, fluorescent yellow hue to its surroundings. Down the drive, the stately umbels, to 2 metres or more, of giant fennel competed for our attention with the shocking pink spears of *Gladiolus italicus*, friar's-cowl, still in flower, and the charming little-Robin. We also managed generally good, if fleeting, views of perhaps four stone-curlews, alongside a herd of goats, Muscovy ducks and a turkey – pleasing in retrospect as the stonies proved rather more elusive for the rest of the week.



Mirror and sawfly orchids at Matchani Gran.

With rising heat and humidity, a few butterflies took to the wing, including swallowtail, painted lady and clouded yellow, and a high proportion of crown daisies held one or two spotted flower-chafers. It also brought the troops to their knees after our early start, so a leisurely return was in order. But all were revived by the first of many excellent evening meals, not just by the food and wine, but also the sound of a scops owl in the garden, the serenade of nightingales and the eerie wails of stone-curlews from all quarters.

Saturday 14 April: S'Albufera des Grau

A cool, damp start was forecast, so no early walk was planned: just as well given the ferocity of the rain before and during breakfast. Again fortunately, the rain abated as we ate, and by the time we arrived at Es Grau it was cloudy and breezy but with only a hint of precipitation.

S'Albufera des Grau is one of the key parts of the only Natural Park on Menorca, a wetland which in winter fills up with thousands of northern waterfowl. In mid-April relatively few remain, and the first hide revealed just coot and mallard, with a few great crested and little grebes performing well in front of us. Walking around the lagoon, we managed to find a few more species, including a distant great egret and a hunting marsh harrier. A nightingale sang in full view, and as it warmed up towards lunchtime, Sardinian warblers became more active and noisier, engaging in territorial skirmishes and song flights.

The scrubby hill slopes were covered in flowering spiny broom and tree-spurge; other lovely flowering elements included *Lathyrus clymenum*, annual red valerian, blue hound's-tongue, blue lupin and yellow-wort. Less showy, but fascinating nonetheless, branched plantain was grown along the trackside, and from deep in a tussock, a praying mantis egg-case was uncovered.

Next stop, at the Visitor Centre for facilities, was extended a little when the Ranger offered to open up the exhibition specially for the group, giving us chance to wander around the dioramas. And then back into the real world, the plants in the garden were a superb collection of the similar (morphologically) but disparate (taxonomically) 'vegetable hedgehogs' or *socarrells*, so characteristic of the far-flung extremities of the island. Most flower a little later, in the early summer, but a Balearic dragon-arum in full, magnificent, almost malevolent flower was ample compensation!



Blue hound's-tongue; Balearic dragon-arum; grey-leaved cistus.

For our picnic, we drove to the car-park on the outskirts of Es Grau village and sat amidst vibrant carpets of purple viper's-bugloss, before heading out on a walk over the salt pans and marshes, on a very sturdy walkway, through the Aleppo pine forest, and back along the beach.

A range of saltmarsh plants included familiar species, like sea-purslane, British rarities such as sharp rush, and oddities like the unusual, bulbil-flowered form of rose garlic. A fine male garganey played hide-and-seek with us on the first pool, a green sandpiper on the second, while a pair of red-crested pochards graced the main lagoon, and little egrets fed, flew and roosted all around. Booted eagles were ever-present overhead, with as many as four seen together, and we (almost) stumbled over our first Hermann's tortoise walking across the track.

All three Menorcan sun-roses were present and correct and in flower: white sage-leaved and narrow-leaved, and pink grey-leaved. But bird-wise the woods were quiet, with just tinkling goldfinches, wheezing greenfinches, the ever-present chatter of Sardinian warblers, and a fly-over pair of wood sandpipers. A few south-western speckled woods skipped between clearings, and a single newly-emerged blue-tailed damselfly was one of very few Odonata seen throughout the week.

Along the dunes, plants in flower included *Lotus cytisoides*, sea knotgrass and sea-rocket, and a male common blue butterfly was flitting between them. The beach itself was covered in the rich invertebrate habitat and nutrient resource of sea-grass litter, thankfully here not cleared away, much in the form of nun's-farts in a range of sizes. And standing proud on the *Posidonia* pile was a splendid, approachable Audouin's gull, almost rivalled in splendour by a confiding hoopoe feeding along the drift-line.

Returning to Matchani Gran after a long and unexpectedly clement day, a male pied flycatcher was spotted, perhaps a sign that the cloud and showers might have grounded some migrants for us.

Sunday 15 April: Son Bou and Torre d'en Gaumes

A dull, cool and breezy start, but there were signs of arrival of migrants with three pied flycatchers, a tree pipit and a wood warbler along the drive, and fly-past trickles of swallows and a turtle dove. Most impressive of all though was the noisy group of at least 18 ravens, presumably dispersing from a communal roost.

Heading out to Son Bou, it was starting to warm up as the sun burned through the cloud. From the Cami de Cavalls round the back of the marsh, several booted eagles and Egyptian vultures were taking advantage of the updraughts, as three or four marsh harriers hunted low over the vast reedbed. Cattle egrets and a purple heron fed along the edge of the pools, with black-winged stilts, coots, and various ducks, including gadwall and shoveler, on the open water. A zitting cisticola zitted almost continuously overhead, giving excellent in-flight views at least; a beautiful male blue-headed wagtail fed around the feet of the horses, and at least three migrant



Egyptian locust and Moorish gecko.

whinchats were sitting peachy and prominently on the top of bushes and hedges. Above us, both common and alpine swifts were passing through, followed closely by a male red-footed falcon.

As we returned to the vans, it was warming up very nicely, and insects were stirring: wall brown and speckled wood butterflies; paper wasps, including several attending their nests; and lumbering blobbily across the track, female oil-beetles, which we tried to move to safety, away from the risk of passing tyres, hooves or boots. The stone walls had mallow-leaved bindweed scrambling over them, large lords-and-ladies at their base, and Italian wall-lizards and Moorish geckoes basking on them; while back at the car park, a huge Egyptian locust watched us watching it and trying to fathom the secret of its stripy eyes.

Down at the beach, it was quite busy with *Homo sapiens*, it being a sunny Sunday, but the Audouin's gulls were undeterred. At least 25 birds were around the mouth of the marsh outfall, feeding, screeching demonically (so unbecoming of such a subtly beautiful bird), and with pairs engaged in head-wagging and strutting pair-bonding behaviour. Lunch was at the picnic site, in the welcome shade of the pines, surrounded by house sparrows; fortunately we were just finishing as two coachloads of locals arrived...



Talaiot (Bronze Age megalith) at Torre d'en Gaumes.

butterflies – swallowtail, common blue, small heath – completed the scene of biodiversity integrated with public archaeology.

By the time we reached Torre d'en Gaumes, the wind had turned from the north to the south-west and the skies above had been swept clear of cloud: for the first time in the holiday it felt truly hot. This superb talaiotic archaeological site is to my mind one of the finest (of many) on the island, with a sympathetic approach to visitor management: one can enter, touch and explore many structures and spaces. The approach to site management is equally enlightened, with no deployment of herbicides to clear the stones of 'unwanted' vegetation. And so the pale periwinkle, *Prasium majus*, small-flowered bugloss and shepherd's-needle were blooming, along with many pyramidal orchids, especially of a white colour form. A hoopoe or two were calling, a pied flycatcher and two wood warblers were feeding up, and a few

A final look out to sea revealed the shape of Mallorca just emerging from the haze, then time to head home after a full and varied day.

Monday 16 April: Tirant, Cap de Cavallería, Sa Roca and Mahón

The day dawned sunny and warm, and several common redstarts and an accidentally-flushed stone-curlew were among the rewards for the early shift. But after breakfast, a dense mist rolled in and the temperature dropped sharply. As we drove past Monte Toro, it was enshrouded from half way up.

Stopping first at the Tirant seasonal wetland (the thinking being correctly that the north coast was most likely to be fog-free with a southerly breeze), the early-emergers from both vans managed a close flight view of a bittern, which flew up from right next to the track at the very point we parked. Several black-winged stilts were feeding in the first, seemingly deep pool, with emergent vegetation, while a little further on, a very shallow pool with mud margins held a good array of smaller waders: half-a-dozen wood sandpipers, three green sandpipers and little ringed plovers, and single common sandpiper and redshank. Zitting cisticolas filled the air with 'song' and six or more booted eagles circled overhead.



Little ringed plovers and black-winged stilt.

Giant fennel provided a dramatic display along the trackside, together with sage-leaved and grey-leaved cistus, and many fresh *Urospermum* flowers, opening in response to the emergence of the sun as the mist burned off. Sadly, there were no bee-eaters around the usual breeding cliffs: presumably not yet arrived on the island.

Out then to the end of the world, the very tip of the Cap de Cavallería, the vegetation becoming more sparse and salt- and wind-pruned, the limestone rocks ever more jagged and prominent every step of the way. After the *Ampelodesmos* tussock-grassland, it was vegetation dominated by vegetable hedgehogs, barely in flower, apart from the endemic, sprawling *palau* variety of rosemary. Taking protection from the hedgehogs' spines was the small endemic *Lotus tetraphyllus*, while other specialities included non-flowering Balearic dragon-arums, pink-flowered endemic *Senecio rodriguezii*, and the bare-ground-hugging sand crocus *Romulea assumptionis*. Bushes and rocks provided vantage points for prominent perchers, including stonechat, tawny pipit, black redstarts and some richly-coloured and confiding male blue rock thrushes, as a short-toed lark bounced overhead, in full territorial song.



Blue rock thrush.

After a drive to and through Fornells on an unsuccessful search for open loos, we headed to the wooded hills of Sa Roca for lunch, in Aleppo pine forest with an understorey of tree-heath and strawberry-tree. Alongside the now-familiar widespread orchids, we also located several spikes, just flowering, of the saprophytic violet bird's-nest. Our other botanical target *Cytinus ruber*, an unusual fungus-like parasite of pink *Cistus*, soon revealed itself, albeit not quite in flower. And under the very first stone I turned, there nestled a Balearic scorpion, remaining for all to see and photograph. As usual, the forest was quiet bird-wise, apart from chaffinches, great tits and a single firecrest.

As we boarded the vans, the rain which had been threatening for most of lunchtime started to fall, and driving along the scenic and historic Cami d'en Kane, it turned torrential. Luckily, however, by the time we reached Mahón the rain had passed, the sun was coming out and the temperature shooting up, giving everyone an hour or so to explore the city, the harbour, the shops and bars, or just to sit and watch the monster cruise-ships depart.

Just before dinner, several of the group independently saw or heard a small flock of bee-eaters over Matchani Gran, presumably the vanguard for the expected influx over the next few days...we live in hope!

Tuesday 17 April: Cales Coves, Binidali and Es Canutells

A crescendo of bird song greeted the cloudless sunrise, but it seemed that the weather set fair had encouraged most in-transit migrants to depart: it was the first morning without flycatchers or redstarts, and only a willow warbler of note.

As our first day of dawn 'til dusk sunshine and consequent heat, it was fortunate, if not entirely fortuitous, that this should be a relatively leisurely day, with little travelling, and not too much walking, exploring south-coast coves within 5km of home. First was Cales Coves: the first time I have been there in spring, it certainly lived up to my hopes and expectations. Open clearings in the scrubby slopes down were covered in swathes of gladioli, tassel hyacinths and pyramidal orchids, while less widespread species included bladder vetch, semi-parasitic *Bellardia*, the near-endemic Balearic cyclamen, its leaves varying from plain green to spectacularly variegated, and our first encounter with the endemic Balearic orchid.



The white form of pyramidal orchid and Balearic orchid.

Down in the tranquil cove, the cliffs and extensive necropolis with numerous genuine-looking rock doves and a couple of blue rock thrushes, we witnessed once again the care that the Menorcan authorities give to their island. Down the long, bumpy access track came a posse of council workers, to empty the rubbish bin and check on the state of the beach. And to feed the local, presumably feral, cats: while recognising the ecological risks of feral cats, and hoping the food may be laced with contraceptive, there can be no mistaking the Menorcans' compassion.



Binidali Cove

Next was a pit-stop in St Climent: postcards for some, but for the rest, a great chance to photograph a field of crown daisies set against a by-now cobalt sky. Back to the ranch to find tables, chair and shade for lunch, and most managed to connect briefly at least with the singing orphean warbler which had been tantalising us for a couple of days.

Then to our nearest coastland, Binidali Cove, where blue rock thrush and stonechat, Audouin's and yellow-legged gulls showed well on the clifftop. The open, salt-sprayed limestone had extensive patches of flowering sea-heath, mingling with tight cushions of the endemic rock sea-lavender *Limonium minutum*. At the head of the cove, some explored the tiny patch of stone pine woodland, finding several Cleopatras, orphean and melodious warblers, and flowering evergreen honeysuckle, while some opted for the shade of the beach café-bar...

Finally, we moved along to Es Canutells, somewhat different to the rest of today's coves as the village is down in the cove, and the harbour comes with its motley crew of semi-domesticated mallards and mutants thereof. The small beach at the head of the cove was more nun's-fart than sand, and the protected dunes were covered in wild carrot, sharp rush and giant reed.

All in all a gentle and varied day, with few obvious signs of bird migration (certainly no bee-eaters), apart from occasional flurries of swifts, including a few pallids. Back at Matchani Gran, several of the party were fascinated to watch – and hear – tortoises mating in the garden, the rhythmic knocking of shell contact alternating with the loud sighs of the mounting male.

Before dinner we were also treated to a presentation from Carlos Coll, President of GOB, the recipients of our conservation donation of some €600 from this tour. We heard stories of conservation success, on a shoestring, and all associated with Honeyguide should be proud (if not a little disappointed) of the fact that we are still the only tour company contributing in this way to conservation in Menorca. Then over dinner, we were entertained and enraptured listening to Deborah, Carlos's wife, who was for 23 years the British Honorary Consul, with an amazing store of tales to tell...

Wednesday 18 April: Addaia Lagoons, Cap Favàritx, Tirant and Binimel-là

Another glorious day dawned, temperatures made more bearable for some by a cooling northerly breeze. Addaia Lagoons, our first destination, is approached through a scenic agricultural valley, where a short stop produced calling quail; stonechat, northern wheatear and corn bunting on a fence; and hobby overhead. A little further on another stop was in order to photograph the weird and wonderful erosion features in the sandstone cliffs.

Approaching the lagoons, we encountered more exciting geology in the form of the 'giraffe rocks', a pine marten spraint, and an obliging Egyptian locust. Black-winged stilts were feeding in the red mudflats (from erosion of the red sandstone), defending their patch vociferously against a couple of greenshanks, while other waterbirds included redshank and shelduck. However, we could not get far enough to see over the main lagoon as our path was blocked by floodwater, so we cut our losses and headed round to Cap Favàritx earlier than planned.



'Giraffe rocks' near the lagoons, and a bed of scarlet pimpernels at Favàritx.

A remarkable, almost lunar landscape, Favàritx is perhaps even more end-of-the-worldy than Cavalleria: it is lower, so more salt-drenched and unvegetated. The folded and contorted shales, slates and sandstones tell stories of geological upheaval, brought to life by the beds of marine trace fossils at our feet, the result of instantaneous ash-cloud cataclysm, and the seams of quartz ramifying through the rocks, oblivious to bedding planes. Black redstart and white wagtail fed along the roadside, with little ringed plovers, shelduck and wood sandpiper around the ephemeral pool. Several Mediterranean shags fishing offshore, and drying themselves on islets, included one striking, white-fronted immature, while a brief seawatch from the lighthouse revealed a dozen or so Balearic and a couple of Cory's shearwaters flying past, and two bee-eaters which came in off the sea. By now lunch was beckoning, and the breeze made the lack of shade comfortable, so here we stayed, with our ever-attentive black redstart, amid carpets of a lovely salmon-coloured form of scarlet pimpernel.



Audouin's gulls.

Our revised afternoon plans were again thwarted by a road closure towards Son Saura del Nord, so another quick itinerary change took us back to Tirant. There were fewer waders than previously, but a bittern watched feeding at close range, from the rear van especially, was an unexpected treat. And at last we connected with stationary bee-eaters, some 15 birds delightfully decorating the telephone wires, being spooked noisily by passing booted eagles.

To complete the afternoon, we continued west to the picturesque, undeveloped beach of Binimel-là, where a gentle stroll along a track flanked with massed ranks of Italian sainfoin took us to the dunes, and *Lotus cytisoides*, sea stock and yellow horned-poppo in flower. A cracking male redstart shared a small field with whinchat and

tawny pipit, while a yellow-legged gull together with an Audouin's (and seemingly displaying to one another) made for easy comparison.

Despite falling temperatures under clear skies, a batting session in the car park after dinner proved reasonably successful, with three species of pipistrelle (common, soprano and Kuhl's) all picked up on the detector, although glimpsed only occasionally as they foraged above canopy height. To complete the night-life, two scops owls were calling, along with nightingales and stone-curlews from every direction.

Thursday 19 April: Cala Galdana and the upper Algendar Gorge

The pre-breakfast walk under cloudy skies and mist remained largely free of migrating birds, apart from single pied flycatcher and redstart, but a pair of red-legged partridges and two Balearic woodchat shrikes helped ring the changes. Over breakfast, a monster was discovered at one of the outside lights, a Chinese oak silk-moth. It may not be native, having originally been brought to Spain to try and generate a local source of silk, but it is now established across much of Spain, including Menorca, and with a wingspan of about 12cm it certainly impressed!



Close-up of the Chinese oak silk-moth; Mediterranean demoiselle.

The sun had broken through as we set off towards the west of the island, heading for Cala Galdana. Two viewpoints, one looking seaward, the other over the chocolate-box view of Menorca: cobalt sea, with darker patches of sea-grass, below pale cliffs (and hotels) and green forest, all under a cloudless azure sky. The seaward view atop sheer cliffs gave us views of a couple of frolicking peregrines, alpine swift at eye level, and migrating shelduck and green sandpiper, while a blue rock thrush serenaded us from a satellite dish, and briefly shared its roof space with a hoopoe.

A brief look at the seaward end of the Algendar Gorge, the longest and deepest gorge on the island, produced rock doves and a kestrel, with house martins collecting mud from a puddle, before we headed back to the upper stretches of the gorge, the wild heart of Menorca, close to Ferreries. As we walked down the gorge track, the noise of hundreds, maybe more, of cliff-nesting house sparrows cheeping drowned out most other sounds, but the views were spectacular. And the plants equally so: sheets of three-cornered leek, with greater celandine, maidenhair fern, large lords-and-ladies and a beautiful bright purple form of branched broomrape, while a bit of judicious stone-turning revealed five or six Balearic scorpions.

Lunch today was very special, a barbeque in the tranquil gorge, laid on by Lawrence in his father's fruit farm. A lovely place to relax, seek some shade, eat and drink, as a dozen or so Egyptian vultures and several booted eagles wheeled above us.

Ascending the gorge back to the car-park was done at a leisurely pace, allowing plenty of time to photograph the Mediterranean demoiselles (unfortunately all females) by the stream, as a scops owl called from the woods. Most of the group opted for the slightly more challenging way up the Pas d'en Revull, a side-gorge renowned for its botanical richness and spectacular, narrow route. Of the endemics, only the cyclamen was in flower, but the leaves of *Viola stolonifera* and *Sibthorpia africana* were recognisable; other specialities included Mediterranean hart's-tongue fern and bay laurel.

Returning to base *via* a refuelling stop, we made one last pause on the journey at the roadward end of our drive. Arabian star-of-Bethlehem had opened its spectacular flowers during the course of our stay, and simply demanded to be photographed. There seemed to have been a flycatcher fall during the day, with half-a dozen piers along the drive and in the garden, and our lepidopteran monster was still sitting where we had left it, having avoided becoming a hefty meal for a hoopoe.

During dinner, a brief review of the week concluded that we had had a great time: 93 bird species, all the expected orchids, colourful floral exuberance, lovely scenery, generally reasonable weather, and great food and accommodation...in fact all the ingredients that make up a Honeyguide holiday.

Friday 20 April: The journey home....

Another early flight gave little time for anything other than breakfast and loading the vans. It was another sunny and warm start, as the forecast was set for the foreseeable future, but at least we had the prospect of even hotter weather in the UK at least for a day or two...!

WILDLIFE LISTS

In these lists, localities are given for those species noted at only a few localities, identified by the following codes:

MG Matchani Gran	CF Cap Favàritx
SB Son Bou	SR Sa Roca
TG Torre d'en Gaumes	AG Algendar Gorge
T Tirant	CG Cala Galdana
CC Cap de Cavalleria	M Mahón
BL Binimel-là	BC Binidali Cove
AL Addaia Lagoons	CCo Cales Coves
EG s'Albufera des Grau	EC Es Canutells

BIRDS

Little grebe	EG T	Turtle dove	MG EG
Great crested grebe	EG	Cuckoo	CCo
Cory's shearwater	CF	Scops owl	MG CCo. AG by day.
Balearic shearwater	CF	Common swift	
Cormorant	EG	Pallid swift	MG
Mediterranean shag		Alpine swift	CG AG SB
Bittern	T	Bee-eater	MG T CF
Cattle egret	SB T	Hoopoe	
Little egret	EG SB	Short-toed lark	CC
Great egret	EG	Thekla lark	
Grey heron	T	Sand martin	SB
Purple heron	SB	Swallow	
Shelduck	AL CF CG	House martin	
Gadwall	T EG SB	Tawny pipit	
Mallard		Tree Pipit	MG
Shoveler	SB	Blue-headed wagtail	SB
Garganey	EG	White wagtail	
Red-crested pochard	EG	Redstart	
Ferruginous duck	T	Black redstart	CC CF
Red kite		Nightingale	
Egyptian vulture		Whinchat	
Marsh harrier	EG SB	Stonechat	
Booted eagle		Northern wheatear	AL
Osprey	CC	Blue rock thrush	
Sparrowhawk	MG	Blackbird	
Kestrel		Cetti's warbler	
Hobby	AL	Zitting cisticola	T SB
Red-footed falcon	SB	Melodious warbler	BC
Peregrine falcon	CG	Western orphean warbler	MG BC
Red-legged partridge	MG CC	Blackcap	
Quail	AL	Sardinian warbler	
Moorhen		Wood warbler	MG TG
Coot		Willow warbler	MG
Black-winged stilt	AL T SB	Common chiffchaff	
Stone-curlew		Firecrest	SR
Little ringed plover	T CF	Pied flycatcher	
Snipe	T	Great tit	
Redshank	T AL	Balearic woodchat shrike	
Greenshank	AL	Spotless starling	
Green sandpiper	T CG EG SB	Raven	
Wood sandpiper	T EG CF SB	House sparrow	
Common sandpiper	T	Chaffinch	
Audouin's gull		Greenfinch	
Yellow-legged gull		Goldfinch	
Rock dove/Feral pigeon		Linnet	
Wood pigeon		Corn bunting	
Collared dove			

AMPHIBIANS	MAMMALS	BUTTERFLIES	
Stripeless tree-frog EG	Algerian hedgehog – road casualty	Large white	Painted lady
REPTILES	Rabbit – droppings and scrapings	Small white	Meadow brown
Italian wall lizard	Black rat – eaten pine cones	Bath white	Wall brown
Moorish gecko SB TG	Pine marten – AL spraint	Clouded yellow	Speckled wood S/W form
Hermann's tortoise MG T EG	Common pipistrelle – MG	Cleopatra	Small heath
	Soprano pipistrelle – MG	Swallowtail	Brown argus
	Kuhl's pipistrelle – MG	Red admiral	Common blue
MOTHS All adult moths recorded from lights at MG			
<i>Ethmia bipunctella</i>	Coppery taupe	Chinese oak silk-moth	
Rusty-dot pearl	Red-green carpet	Dark sword-grass	
Pine processionary-moth – larval webs	Mullein wave	White-speck	
Yellow belle	Small Moroccan wave	Marbled coronet	
Brassy waved umber	Portland ribbon wave	Poplar grey	
Feathered beauty	Mediterranean pug	Bordered straw	
Scalloped barred	Netted pug	Four-spotted	
OTHER INSECTS			
Lesser emperor <i>Anax parthenope</i> T	<i>Eucera</i> sp A long-horned bee		
Blue tailed damselfly <i>Ischnura elegans</i> EG	Black oil-beetle <i>Meloe proscarabaeus</i> SB		
Mediterranean demoiselle <i>Calopteryx haemorrhoidalis</i> AG	Rhinoceros beetle <i>Coprinus hispanus</i> MG		
Egyptian locust <i>Anacridium aegyptiacum</i>	Churchyard beetle <i>Blaps</i> sp		
<i>Tropidopola cylindrica</i> A grasshopper EC	<i>Akis acuminata</i> A darkling beetle		
<i>Trioza kiefferi</i> Psyllid gall on <i>Rhamnus alaternus</i> AG	<i>Akis bacarozzo</i> Another darkling beetle		
<i>Haploprocta sulcicornis</i> A squash bug AG	<i>Psilothrix viridocoeruleus</i> A soft-winged flower-beetle		
Praying mantis (egg mass) EG	7-spot ladybird <i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>		
<i>Spilostethus pandurus</i> A red-and-black bug	Golden-striped tortoise-beetle <i>Cassida vittata</i> MG		
Asphodel bug <i>Horistus orientalis</i>	Spotted flower-chafer <i>Oxythyrea funesta</i>		
Paper wasp <i>Polistes gallicus</i>	<i>Eliozeta helluo</i> A tachinid fly AG		
Violet carpenter-bee <i>Xylocopa violacea</i>	<i>Acanthiophilus helicanthi</i>		
<i>Andrena clarkella</i> A mining bee	A picture-winged fly on crown daisy MG		
OTHER INVERTEBRATES			
Balearic scorpion <i>Euscorpius balearicus</i> SR AG	A large millipede <i>Tachypodiulus</i> sp		
A jumping spider <i>Carrhotus xanthogramma</i> AG	A leggy centipede <i>Scutigera coleoptrata</i>		
A crab spider <i>Synema globosum</i> AG	A pointy snail <i>Clausilia</i> sp		
A nursery-web spider <i>Pisaura mirabilis</i>	Garden snail <i>Cornu aspersa</i>		
A pill-woodlouse <i>Armillidium</i> sp	Banded snail <i>Cepaea</i> sp		
LICHENS			
<i>Cladonia foliacea</i>	Sunburst lichen <i>Xanthoria parietina</i>		



Mediterranean pug; Netted pug; paper wasp.



Haploprocta sulcicornis (a squash bug); *Tropidopola cylindrica* (a grasshopper); *Horistus orientalis* (Asphodel bug).

PLANTS

This is a somewhat selective list, concentrating on those species found in flower or which are otherwise noticeable or interesting. English names are given only where there is one used in reference books, or one can justifiably be coined.

After the scientific name an indication is given for those species or forms considered to be endemic to the region, ie to be found in the wild there and only there. The scale of the endemism is taken from the *Flowers of Menorca* (GOB).

EM = endemic to Menorca **EG** = endemic to Menorca and Mallorca **EB** = endemic to the Balearic Islands
ET = endemic to the western Mediterranean island area **P** = planted

FERNS and ALLIES		
<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	maidenhair fern	AG
<i>Asplenium onopteris</i>	Irish spleenwort	AG
<i>Equisetum ramosissimum</i>	branched horsetail	SB
<i>Equisetum telmateia</i>	great horsetail	AG
<i>Phyllitis sagittata</i>	Mediterranean hart's-tongue	AG
<i>Polypodium cambricum</i>	Southern polypody	CCo AG
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	bracken	
CONIFERS and ALLIES		
<i>Ephedra fragilis</i>	joint-pine	
<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i>	Phoenician juniper	SB EG
<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Aleppo pine	
<i>Pinus pinea</i>	stone pine	BC
FLOWERING PLANTS		
	Acanthaceae	
<i>Acanthus mollis</i> P	bear's-breeches	SB AG
	Agavaceae	
<i>Agave Americana</i> P	century plant	
	Aizoaceae	
<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Hottentot-fig	CF SB
	Amaryllidaceae	
<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	sand daffodil	
	Anacardiaceae	
<i>Pistachia lentiscus</i>	lentisc	
	Apiaceae	
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	rock samphire	
<i>Daucus carota</i>	wild carrot	
<i>Daucus carota</i> ssp. <i>hispanicus</i>		BC EC
<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	sea-holly	SB EG
<i>Ferula communis</i>	giant fennel	
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	fennel	
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	shepherd's-needle	TG
<i>Smyrniolum olusatrum</i>	alexanders	
<i>Tordylium apulum</i>		CCo
	Apocynaceae	
<i>Vinca difformis</i>	pale periwinkle	TG
	Araceae	
<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	friar's-cowl	MG AG
<i>Arum italicum</i>	Italian lords-and-ladies	AG SB
<i>Dracunculus muscivorus</i> ET	Balearic dragon arum	CC
<i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i> P		AG
	Araliaceae	
<i>Hedera helix</i>	ivy	AG
	Asteraceae	
<i>Artemisia coerulescens</i>		EG
<i>Artemisia gallica</i>		BC
<i>Bellis annua</i>	annual daisy	
<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	field marigold	
<i>Carlina corymbosa</i>		CC
<i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i>	crown daisy	
<i>Evax pygmaea</i>		MG
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>		
<i>Helichrysum stoechas</i>		
<i>Hyoseris radiata</i>		
<i>Hypochaeris achyrophorus</i>		
<i>Inula crithmoides</i>	golden-samphire	EG SB
<i>Inula viscosa</i>	stink aster	
<i>Launaea cervicornis</i> EG	hedgehog lettuce	CC CF
<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>		
<i>Phagnalon saxatile</i>		CCo
<i>Reichardia tingitana</i>		
<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i> var. <i>magonica</i> EM	lavender-cotton	CC CF

<i>Senecio rodriguezii</i> EG		CC CF
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	milk-thistle	
<i>Sonchus tenerrimus</i>		
<i>Urospermum dalechampii</i>		
Boraginaceae		
<i>Borago officinalis</i>	borage	
<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	blue hound's-tongue	EG
<i>Echium parviflorum</i>	small-flowered viper's-bugloss	MG TG
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	purple viper's-bugloss	
<i>Echium sabulicola</i>		SB
Brassicaceae		
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	sea-rocket	EG
<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	sweet alison	
<i>Matthiola sinuata</i>	sea stock	BL
Cactaceae		
<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i>	prickly-pear	
Caprifoliaceae		
<i>Lonicera implexa</i>	evergreen honeysuckle	
Caryophyllaceae		
<i>Silene cerastoides</i>		AG
<i>Silene gallica</i>	small-flowered catchfly	
<i>Silene sedoides</i>		CF
Chenopodiaceae		
<i>Arthrocnemum macrostachyum</i>		
<i>Atriplex portulacoides</i>	sea-purslane	EG AL
<i>Beta vulgaris</i> ssp <i>maritima</i>	sea beet	
<i>Salicornia ramosissima</i>	glasswort	
<i>Sarcocornia fruticosa</i>	shrubby glasswort	EG AL
Cistaceae		
<i>Cistus albidus</i>	grey-leaved cistus	
<i>Cistus monspeliensis</i>	narrow-leaved cistus	
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>	sage-leaved cistus	
Convolvulaceae		
<i>Calystegia soldanella</i>	sea bindweed	EG
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	mallow-leaved bindweed	
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	field bindweed	
Crassulaceae		
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	navelwort	
Cyperaceae		
<i>Carex extensa</i>	long-bracted sedge	AG
<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>	black bog-rush	CC
<i>Scirpus maritimus</i>	sea club-rush	AL
Dioscoreaceae		
<i>Tamus communis</i>	black bryony	AG
Ericaceae		
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	strawberry-tree	SR
<i>Erica arborea</i>	tree-heath	SR



Senecio rodriguezii



Romulea assumptionis

<i>Euphorbia characias</i>	Euphorbiaceae	large Mediterranean spurge	AG
<i>Euphorbia dendroides</i>		tree spurge	EG CF
<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>		sun spurge	
<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>		sea spurge	SB EG
<i>Euphorbia terracina</i>			CF
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i> ssp <i>font-querii</i>	Fabaceae		
<i>Astragalus balearicus</i> EG		hedgehog milk-vetch	CF CC
<i>Calicotome spinosa</i>		spiny broom	
<i>Coronilla juncea</i>			SR CG
<i>Dorycnium fulgurans</i> EG			CF
<i>Dorycnium pentaphyllum</i>			AL
<i>Hedysarum coronarium</i>		Italian sainfoin	
<i>Lathyrus annuus</i>			
<i>Lathyrus clymenum</i>			EG
<i>Lathyrus ochrus</i>			
<i>Lathyrus sphaericus</i>			EG CCo
<i>Lotus cytisoides</i>			
<i>Lotus ornithopodioides</i>			
<i>Lotus tetraphyllum</i> EG			CC
<i>Lupinus micranthus</i>		blue lupin	EG
<i>Medicago littoralis</i>			SB
<i>Medicago marina</i>		sea medick	SB EG
<i>Melilotus sulcatus</i>			AG
<i>Ononis reclinata</i>		small rest-harrow	CC
<i>Psoralea bituminosa</i>		pitch trefoil	EG AG
<i>Scorpiurus muricatus</i>			SR
<i>Trifolium campestre</i>		hop trefoil	EG
<i>Trifolium nigrescens</i>			
<i>Trifolium resupinatum</i>		reversed clover	EG
<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>		starry clover	
<i>Tripodium tetraphyllum</i>		bladder vetch	CCo
<i>Vicia benghalensis</i>			EG CCo
<i>Vicia bitynica</i>		Bithynian vetch	EG
<i>Vicia sativa</i>		common vetch	
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Fagaceae	holm oak	MG EG MN AG
<i>Frankenia hirsuta</i>	Frankeniaceae	hairy sea-heath	CC BC
<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	Fumariaceae	white ramping fumitory	
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Gentianaceae	yellow-wort	EG
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Geraniaceae	common stork's-bill	
<i>Erodium malacoides</i>		mallow-leaved stork's-bill	
<i>Erodium moschatum</i>		musk stork's-bill	
<i>Geranium purpureum</i>		little-robin	
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>		herb-Robert	AG
<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>		round-leaved crane's-bill	CCo
<i>Gladiolus illyricus</i>	Iridaceae	wild gladiolus	
<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>			SB MG
<i>Iris germanica</i>		purple iris	MG
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>		yellow flag	SB
<i>Romulea assumptionis</i> EB			CC
<i>Juncus acutus</i>	Juncaceae	sharp rush	
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Lamiaceae	water mint	AG
<i>Prasium majus</i>			MG TG CCo
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>		rosemary	SR
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i> var. <i>palaui</i> EG			CC
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>		meadow clary	BL
<i>Teucrium subspinosum</i> EG		hedgehog germander	CF

<i>Allium roseum</i>	Liliaceae rose garlic	
<i>Allium triquetrum</i>	three-cornered leek	
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>		
<i>Asparagus albus</i>		
<i>Asparagus horridus</i>		
<i>Asphodelus aestivus</i>	white asphodel	
<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	hollow-stemmed asphodel	
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	tassel hyacinth	
<i>Ornithogalum arabicum</i>	Arabian star-of-Bethlehem	MG
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	butcher's-broom	SB EG
<i>Urginea maritima</i>	sea squill	
<i>Linum bienne</i>	Linaceae pale flax	CCo
<i>Malva arborea</i>	Malvaceae tree mallow	AG SB
<i>Malva pseudolavatera</i>	smaller tree-mallow	
<i>Malva subovata</i>		AG
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	common mallow	
<i>Ficus carica</i>	Moraceae fig	
<i>Myoporum laetum</i> P	Myoporaceae	MG
<i>Phillyrea latifolia</i>	Oleaceae	EG
<i>Phillyrea media</i> var. <i>rodriguezii</i> EM		CF
<i>Olea europaea</i>	olive	
<i>Orobanche ramosa</i>	Orobanchaceae branched broomrape	AG
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Orchidaceae pyramidal orchid	
<i>Barlia robertiana</i>	giant orchid	MG
<i>Limodorum abortivum</i>	violet bird's-nest orchid	SR
<i>Ophrys balearica</i> EB	Balearic orchid	CCo
<i>Ophrys bombyliflora</i>	bumblebee orchid	
<i>Ophrys lutea</i>	yellow bee orchid	MG
<i>Ophrys speculum</i>	mirror orchid	
<i>Ophrys tenthredinifera</i>	sawfly orchid	
<i>Serapias parviflora</i>	small-flowered tongue-orchid	
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Oxalidaceae Bermuda buttercup	
<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	Palmaceae dwarf fan-palm	CC
<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	Papaveraceae greater celandine	AG
<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	yellow horned-poppy	EG BL
<i>Papaver dubium</i>	long-headed poppy	
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	common poppy	
<i>Phytolacca arborea</i> P	Phytolaccaceae ombu	MG
<i>Plantago afra</i>	Plantaginaceae	EG
<i>Plantago bellardii</i>		MG
<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	buck's-horn plantain	
<i>Plantago crassifolia</i>		SB EG
<i>Plantago lagopus</i>		
<i>Plantago macrorhiza</i>		CC



Left – bumblebee orchid

Right – small-flowered tongue-orchid



<i>Limonium echioides</i>	Plumbaginaceae	CC CF MN
<i>Limonium minutum</i> EB		CC CF
	Poaceae	
<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	marram grass	SB EG
<i>Ampelodesmos mauritanicus</i>		EG CC
<i>Arundo donax</i>	giant reed	EC AG
<i>Briza media</i>	quaking-grass	CCo
<i>Elymus farctus</i>	sea couch-grass	SB EG
<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	wall barley	
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	hare's-foot grass	
<i>Lamarckia aurea</i>	golden dog's-tailmg	
<i>Melica arrecta</i>		AG
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	common reed	SB
<i>Polypogon maritimus</i>		EG
	Polygonaceae	
<i>Polygonum maritimum</i>	sea knotgrass	EG
<i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i>		
	Posidoniaceae	
<i>Posidonia oceanica</i>	Neptune-weed	
	Primulaceae	
<i>Cyclamen balearicum</i>	Balearic cyclamen	AG CCo
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i> (red and blue varieties)	scarlet pimpernel	
	Rafflesiaceae	
<i>Cytinus ruber</i>		SR
	Ranunculaceae	
<i>Clematis cirrhosa</i>	maiden's-bower	
<i>Ranunculus aquatilis</i>	common water-crowfoot	T
<i>Ranunculus macrophyllus</i>		AL
	Resedaceae	
<i>Reseda alba</i>	white mignonette	
	Rhamnaceae	
<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	Mediterranean buckthorn	AG
	Rosaceae	
<i>Crataegus momogyna</i>	hawthorn	
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	blackthorn	
<i>Rosa sempervirens</i>		EG
<i>Rubus ulmifolius</i>	bramble	
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	salad burnet	SR T
	Rubiaceae	
<i>Galium aparine</i>	cleavers	
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	wild madder	
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	field madder	
	Scrophulariaceae	
<i>Bellardia trixago</i>		
<i>Misopates orontium</i>	weasel's-snout	TG
<i>Scrophularia auriculata</i>	water figwort	AG
<i>Scrophularia peregrina</i>		
<i>Sibthorpia Africana</i> EB		AG
<i>Verbascum creticum</i>		CCo
<i>Veronica cymbalaria</i>		
	Smilacaceae	
<i>Smilax aspera</i>		
	Tamaricaceae	
<i>Tamarix africana</i>		SB
<i>Tamarix gallica</i>	tamarisk	EG
<i>Tamarix tetragyna</i>		EG
	Thymelaeaceae	
<i>Thymelaea hirsuta</i>		B
	Ulmaceae	
<i>Ulmus minor</i>	small-leaved elm	AG
	Urticaceae	
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	pellitory-of-the-wall	
<i>Urtica membranacea</i>		
	Valerianaceae	
<i>Centranthus calcitrapae</i>	annual red-valerian	SB AG
	Violaceae	
<i>Viola stolonifera</i> EM		AG