

# Corsica

26<sup>th</sup> April – 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2008

## Tour Leaders

Mike Read  
Mike Crewe

## Daily Diary

### Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April

Two of the group arrived on an earlier flight and had an opportunity to catch up with a few birds on a beautifully sunny afternoon. Soon the leader had taken them to a spot where about 30 European Bee-eaters were perching on overhead cables and then swooping down to catch occasional insects. Italian and Tree Sparrows lined up on the fence while a group of Yellow Wagtails fed out in a short-turfed grassy field. A little further on a group of at least 8 Stone Curlews sat or stood near some short shrubs with a Common Buzzard perched on the fence beyond. The final but brief sightings here were a male Whinchat and a couple of Hoopoes.

Beside the Etang de Biguglia things seemed a little quiet but a Zitting Cisticola performed a prolonged song flight and a Common Buzzard flew in one direction while a Red Kite flapped lazily in the other. By now it was time to head for the airport to meet up with everyone else but on the way another brief stop was made to look at 3 male Red-footed Falcons perched on the ground in a roadside field.

Once everyone was assembled and the minibus situation was sorted out, we began our journey towards Corte. A couple of Red Kites were seen as we drove and a brief stop was made at Ponte Novu to recount a little about the French invasion of Corsica in 1768. At another bridge we saw a few Crag Martins feeding overhead but as time was pressing we drove to our hotel in the Restonica Valley where we noted a male Blue Rock Thrush as we unloaded our luggage and headed for our rooms. After briefly settling in, we walked the short distance to the restaurant where we enjoyed a fine Corsican meal.

### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April

We began the day with a gentle stroll up into the Restonica Valley and began with good views of a Wood Pigeon in a tree close to the hotel. Jay and Coal Tit were soon added and as the morning began to warm, a group of Alpine Swifts were noted high above a ridge to the south while up the ridge to the north, a Blue Rock Thrush gave fair views. A Dipper standing on a large boulder was the next good find and as we watched this bird, a second individual flew off down stream. The only other sightings on this walk were a few Crag Martins, 3 distant Alpine Choughs and a Great Spotted Woodpecker.

After breakfast we again headed up the Restonica Valley and paused at the Dipper spot so that the non-early risers could see one. A very distant Golden Eagle disappeared behind a ridge and some of the group turned their attention to flower spotting. Those found included *Cyclamen repandum* and Corsican Hellebore but the appearance of a pair of Corsican Nuthatches soon returned all eyes to birds. The rest of the walk produced Red Kites, Common Buzzard, Long-tailed Tits and a pair of Cirl Buntings.

Soon we were enjoying a cuppa further along and there we added Treecreeper and European Robin. From here we drove to the upper car park from where we strolled a little way along the footpath towards Lac Melu. By the car park we noted Black Redstart and Blue Rock Thrush and soon saw Alpine Choughs high above various ridges. However as the birds were a little scarce, we returned to

the vehicles for lunch. Just as we finished eating, a group of 3 Golden Eagles flew along just above us and circled up through the valley and off over one of the ridges. This was a truly spectacular sighting – a ‘flock’ of Golden Eagles!!

We drove out of the Restonica Valley and east along the N200 where a group of many hundreds of Green-winged Orchids were well worth pausing for. Lots of photos were taken and then a bird song caught our attention. This turned out to be a Subalpine Warbler and in the end, 2 of these elusive birds were seen. Just before we left we saw another Common Buzzard which flew past us. Along a back road, a group of dark ophrys had been lost, as the grass verge had been cut. However, after a pause for a singing Woodlark, we found a few Pink Butterfly Orchids that were in prime condition. A short walk to the river enabled us to see 4 Red Kites, Cirl and Corn Buntings, Common Chiffchaff and a Nightingale and as we left and headed back to Corte, an unseen Common Cuckoo sang in the distance.

### **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April**

Our pre breakfast walk today took us towards the ancient Citadel ‘city’ of Corte. As we assembled on the hotel patio, a Dipper flew past and disappeared up river. A Mistle Thrush sang amongst the trees a little way along the road as a pair of Common Ravens flew overhead. Other species noted included Jay, Blackbird, Blackcap as well as Coal and Blue Tits.

After breakfast we set off to explore the magnificent Asco Valley. In the broader lower reaches of the valley a drive on to a side track had us viewing at least a dozen Rock Sparrows. At this location we had good views of 2 or 3 passing Red Kites and then a Montagu’s Harrier flew past and the kites were quickly forgotten. Further along we overlooked some fields where 2 Woodchat Shrikes and at least 3 Woodlarks were seen along with more, or perhaps the same, Red Kites in flight and a flock of 10 European Bee-eaters flew westwards. After a brief pause to visit a location where Hermann’s Tortoises were part of a breed-and-release-scheme, we drove to the village of Asco where we paused for coffees. As we sat admiring the magnificent scenery, occasional raptors were seen. These included up to 4 Golden Eagles in the air together, 2 Common Buzzards, Common Kestrel, a distant Peregrine and 3 Lammergeiers. Also seen from the café balcony were Ravens, Alpine Choughs and a few Serins.

After a pause to view a singing Blackcap we drove a little further into the rugged part of the Asco Valley where a pause for lunch seemed like a good idea. As the picnics were being collected, a shout of ‘Lammergeier’ had us all looking at two much closer birds than we had seen earlier. Perhaps they could smell the delicious pate and preferred that to the aroma of coffee! Other birds were seen during lunch and these included a male Blue Rock Thrush.

Once we had finished lunch, we began to drive further towards Haute Asco but were soon turned back by ‘Route Barreé’ signs. This was a disappointment but it did enable us to return to the lower fields, which proved very beneficial. The Montagu’s Harrier that we had seen earlier in the day (or was it a different bird?) was hunting the area for some considerable time and occasionally it disturbed other birds. Serins and Corsican Citril Finches would have been easy prey so they soon vacated the area. However, the plumage of birds like Woodlark and Tawny Pipit seemed to offer them better, more camouflaged protection so they would occasionally appear when the Harrier moved away. Other birds noted in these fields included Whinchats and Wheatear but by now, the day had warmed up considerably so we moved on to Ponte Leccia where we enjoyed ice creams before returning to Corte.

### **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April**

The early walk began with a drive to the edge of Corte so that we could search gardens for birds. This proved to be a good decision when a Firecrest landed in a tree right beside the road. Serins and Goldfinches were soon added to the list along with a male Cirl Bunting. This latter bird was in a roadside tree as we approached the town bridge. At the same place we heard a few calls from the gardens and this alerted us to the presence of 2 or 3 Subalpine Warblers. Our final bird contact of this walk was to hear a Cetti’s Warbler singing.

After breakfast we drove to the Rau de Lagani; a 'gentle' valley in stark contrast to the previous 2 days locations. Shortly after leaving the main road we paused to look or listen for birds and a number of Nightingales seemed to be filling the air with their songs. Red Kites and Common Buzzards were seen overhead and soon a Hoopoe was heard calling from a nearby tree. This bird was soon located and as we watched it was joined by a second individual. Further along the streamside grassland we paused to look at a Woodchat Shrike and soon found that there were more birds to be seen. A couple of Rock Sparrows perched briefly on a ruined building and a Peregrine was seen in the distance. Common Swifts and Barn Swallows passed northwards in good numbers and a Sparrowhawk flew high above us just before a Golden Eagle hove into view. Turtle Doves, Common Kestrel, Whinchat, Northern Wheatear and Cirl Bunting completed our watching here.

As we headed further along the road, a couple of unidentified lizards seemed to be warming themselves on the tarmac. Each one scuttled off at high speed as we approached but one was not quite quick enough and was taken by another Common Kestrel just inches in front of the leading minibus. A brief pause about a couple of kilometres further on had some of us finding a Marmora's Warbler but not everyone saw this bird. As we headed onwards it became evident that the hoped-for migrants were not present in any numbers but at lunch, the lack of quantity was certainly made up by plenty of quality! Birds seen during another fine repast were at least 3 Woodchat Shrikes, 4 Whinchats, a pair of Northern Wheatears and numerous Nightingales. 4 Common Kestrels and a few Red Kites represented the raptors while the northward bound Swifts and Swallows were joined by a few Yellow Wagtails and European Bee-eaters. More Hoopoes and a couple of Tawny Pipits completed the list at this location.

A stop on a side road proved worthwhile when we found a couple more Subalpine Warblers in the scrub below us. Also noted here were Sardinian Warbler, Cirl Bunting and a Scarce Swallowtail butterfly. However the best sighting here had to be the Marmora's Warbler that at times approached to within a few feet of the group. We headed onwards and were soon enjoying views to the north west coast of Corsica and to the enchanting village of Novella. Completing the loop back to the D8 we were soon heading back to our hotel near Corte although some of us seemed intent on savouring a little more of Corsica's upland scenery than others!! After the evening checking of the bird list, we visited the nearby restaurant for another fine, typically Corsican, meal.

### **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April**

As we were changing hotels today, there was no pre breakfast walk. At 9 a.m. we began our journey towards Aleria and paused to overlook a field where some cattle were feeding. Woodlarks and Citril Finches were soon seen along with both White and Yellow Wagtails. Of the latter there were at least 2 different forms present (see mention in species list). Also noted here were both Stonechat and Whinchat. Woodlark and Citril Finch also featured when we paused at Pont Genoia but migrants were also present including a group of 3 Bee-eaters, a couple of singing Nightingales hidden in the depths and numerous Common Swifts flying around. Linnet, Cirl Bunting and Corn Bunting were also noted.

After seeing Kestrel and at least a couple of Red Kites during the onward journey we paused at Ghisonaccia for a coffee break. Spotless Starlings were numerous and there were a couple of Whinchats as well but it was the raptor viewing that was perhaps best here. Admittedly many of the birds were rather distant but we did note Red Kite, Common Kestrel, Hobby and a couple of northward bound Honey Buzzards, although not everyone saw these latter birds. Also heading northwards was a steady trickle of Barn Swallows. We then drove to Calzarellu for a walk along the beach and at times it was difficult to keep our attention on things avian! As we walked along beside the reed-lined waterway a few Reed Warblers could be heard as well as an occasional Little Grebe. On the more open water there were numerous Coots, a few Great Crested Grebes and four Red-crested Pochards, while wandering about on some of the weed was a Wood Sandpiper. Purple Herons flew about occasionally; as did a Great White Egret and a couple of Common Buzzards while a Common Snipe jumped up from beside the beach and promptly disappeared over the reeds. Perhaps the best sighting here though was of falcons, there were at least 2 or 3 Hobbies dashing about catching insects along with as many as perhaps a dozen Red-footed Falcons. Many of these latter birds came quite close to us and gave excellent views. We returned to the car park for our lunch well satisfied with our mornings

birding and as we ate we added Audouin's Gull to the tally. As the lunch things were packed away most of the group briefly visited a nearby meadow where lots of Loose-flowered Orchids were growing.

A few miles north of Calzarellu we visited a peninsular jutting out into the Etang d'Urbino. On the approach road there were at least 20 Bee-eaters perched on the wires along with a couple of Corn Buntings. As we parked half a dozen Cattle Egrets could be seen escorting sheep to the south of the road while away to the north Great White and Little Egrets could be seen in the distance. A pair of Shelduck, a lone Black-winged Stilt and 2 Greenshanks were out on the marsh along with numerous Yellow-legged Gulls, a Cuckoo flew past and there were a few Cormorants to be seen on the Oyster rearing cages. Final birds here caused a bit of confusion at first because all we could see was the top of their heads! In the end 7 Turtle Doves flew up to reveal their true identity.

We journeyed a little further north and visited the Etang de Terrenzana area. Heart-flowered Serapias proved the first point of interest while out on the lake Purple and Grey Herons were noted along with a couple more Little Egrets. Another pair of Red-crested Pochards were seen and those who dared look just happened to notice a man on a bicycle out in the local naturist colony! From here we headed north towards our next hotel with occasional Red Kites on the way but just a kilometre or so from our destination we happened upon 3 White Storks resting in a ploughed field. After watching these for a while we headed on to complete the journey but were delayed once more by birds. In this case there was a lone Hobby perched on roadside cables along with 4 or 5 Red-footed Falcons. This completed our watching for the day and after settling in we enjoyed a good evening meal.

#### **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May**

Before breakfast we took the opportunity to explore the local woodland edge for birds. Even before we set out 2 Hoopoes could be heard calling along with occasional Bee-eaters heading northwards. Along the beach a Northern Wheatear or two were seen and back into the woodland we heard Chiffchaff and saw a pair of Common Kestrels. As we reached the road Cetti's Warbler and Nightingale could be heard singing beyond and as we made our way back towards the hotel for breakfast a 'golden oriole' was heard but in the end it turned out to be a Spotless Starling doing a very passable imitation.

For our day out we were heading for Cap Corse at the northern tip of Corsica. This is perhaps the best spring migration watch point in the whole of France. After a pause at Macinaggio for a coffee stop we completed the journey out to Barcaggio where the first priority seemed to be sea watching. Cory's Shearwaters were quite numerous out near the offshore island and a group of half a dozen Yelkouan Shearwaters flew past. We decided to have lunch before setting out on our walk and for some the sea watching continued whilst for others the birds around the car park seemed just as important. People in the latter category were rewarded with good views of at least 2 Pallid Swifts along with many Common Swifts and Barn Swallows. Suddenly a Squacco Heron flew in and disappeared among the bushes just a short way inland but not everyone saw this bird.

Once our appetites were satisfied we set out on our walk and within the trees we were soon looking at Willow, Wood, Subalpine and 2 Garden Warblers. A short way along the beach a few Bee-eaters were noted along with maybe half a dozen Whinchats and 2 or 3 Northern Wheatears. Three Common Ravens flew over calling and headed in land and as we passed a large puddle, a Wood Sandpiper flew up. Also noted in flight were Red-throated Pipit and Short-toed Lark as well as a small group of Alpine Swifts. A few Citril Finches were seen along with a female Red-footed Falcon and a Sardinian Warbler. While out at the pond Little Grebe could be heard calling and both Common Sandpiper and Squacco Heron flew off. Out at sea the Cory's Shearwaters were still present with as many of 40 joining a group of feeding Yellow-legged Gulls. We made our way back towards the car park but then took a little detour to gaze into various back gardens and look over a little wetland area. Pied and Spotted Flycatchers were both seen along with a Common Redstart and 2 Tree Pipits. The wetland provided some of the best birding of the day when a Greenshank was noted as well as at least a dozen fairly close Wood Sandpipers. We thought we had found the Squacco Heron again but on closer inspection it turned out to be a Little Bittern. Surprisingly this bird seemed fairly confident in its own

camouflage and continued to wander about feeding despite our presence nearby. In the end it disappeared in amongst some bushes and was lost to view. However, just a little further on we did actually find the Squacco Heron. To complete our visit to this location we saw a female Sub-alpine Warbler close to the car park. From here we drove directly back to our hotel in time for dinner.

### **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

As we left the hotel on our pre-breakfast walk Bee-eaters and Hoopoes could once again be heard. Across the coastal road Nightingales were joined this morning by singing Blackcaps whilst amongst some sparrows in bramble bushes an Ortolan Bunting put in a brief appearance. As we wandered onwards this latter bird was again seen very briefly as it landed on the road just as a vehicle approached. It obviously knew Corsican drivers as well as us and was soon seen flying off into the distance to get away from the road. Out over some fields we could see more Bee-eaters perched on wires along with a Red-footed Falcon or two and a couple of Hoopoes flew past. Three slightly distant Stone Curlews were then found along with a great Corsican rarity, 3 rabbits!

After breakfast we visited the Stone Curlew site again and saw at least 10 of these birds along with presumably the same 2 Hoopoes again and even better views of the Bee-eaters and Red-footed Falcons. Three Tawny Pipits seemed a little nervous at first but eventually gave us good views before flying off. We spent some time watching the birds here and whilst doing so noted some Kestrels, Red Kites and 2 of yesterday's 3 White Storks flying off northwards. By now a coffee stop was needed so we headed northwards and after a brief view of a small peninsula jutting out into the Etang de Biguglia (where we saw Coots, Mallards, Little Egret and a Common Sandpiper) we paused for a refreshing drink.

A little further north we drove across a bumpy track with views to the etang both sides of the road. A couple of Zitting Cisticolas were the first birds of note, along with a Common Buzzard or two and a Kestrel. During a short walk a Montagu's Harrier flew northwards as did a lone Lesser Kestrel. Other birds noted out here included Nightingale, Cetti's Warbler and a Common Sandpiper whilst on the way back towards the vehicles a group of 9 Turtle Doves and a lone Osprey were seen in flight. One member of the group glimpsed a couple of Golden Orioles flying towards some oak trees but unfortunately they disappeared before anyone else could see them. In the end most people heard them singing their lovely fluty songs but unfortunately the birds were not seen again. As we had lunch at this location a Common Pochard was found on the etang and a Marsh Harrier drifted past and as we left the area Water Rail and Moorhen were heard calling and a hepatic (red form) Cuckoo was seen.

At the north end of the lake we strolled along a nature trail towards a viewing screen noting Audouin's Gull and 30 distant heat-haze-distorted Greater Flamingos. As we wandered through the woodland a few Wood Warblers and a Spotted Flycatcher were well seen. At the viewing screen 2 much closer Greater Flamingos were noted along with a Common Sandpiper and a first summer Slender-billed Gull. As we headed back towards the vehicles a Great Spotted Woodpecker seemed agitated at our presence; perhaps it had a nest nearby and a much closer Audouin's Gull was stood on one of the row posts in the etang. Finally we were given a brief view of a Honey Buzzard drifting down and away from us on flatly held wings. To complete our watching for the day we took a narrow road past the football stadium down to an old 'fort'. At this point we were getting somewhat closer views of the group of Flamingos but it wasn't until 3 or 4 of them flew that we could actually see the pink/red in their wings. A Marsh Harrier hunted beyond them, a Squacco Heron stood briefly on the near bank of the etang and Bee-eaters were on the wires just above us. Yellow Wagtails (of 3 or 4 varieties) and a Wood Sandpiper were seen along the ditch, while Purple Heron and Little Egret were both seen in flight. Another female Subalpine Warbler appeared briefly, a pair of Northern Wheatears were seen out in one of the fields and 3 or 4 Common Sandpipers were noted at the water's edge. This completed our watching for the day so we returned to the hotel in good time for a little packing before dinner.

### **Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**

As we were heading homewards today there was no pre-breakfast walk to allow time for packing and by 9.00am we were heading towards the airport to check-in for the first of our homeward flights. We

bade farewell to Bob and Eve whose flight was later than ours and were soon taking off towards Nice. After lunch we caught our flight back to Heathrow and at the baggage carousel bade farewell and all headed homewards after a most enjoyable trip to the lovely Isle de Beauté

### Systematic Species List

**Common Shelduck** *Tadorna tadorna*

Two resting birds at Etang d'Urbino on 30th.

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*

Small numbers at coastal wetlands on Corsica and at Nice.

**Red-crested Pochard** *Netta rufina*

A total of five birds seen at coastal wetlands on 30th.

**Common Pochard** *Aythya ferina*

A male during our lunch stop at Etang de Biguglia on 2nd.

**Cory's Shearwater** *Calonectris diomedea*

A total of around 30 birds off Cap Corse on 1st included quite a number at a feeding flock with Yellow-legged Gulls.

**Yelkouan Shearwater** *Puffinus yelkouan*

A party of six birds whipped west off Cap Corse on 1st, showing their neat, white underparts.

**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

A scattering of birds at coastal wetlands on 30th and 1st.

**Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus*

A total of four pairs logged at coastal wetlands from 30th to 2nd.

**Greater Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus roseus*

About 30 birds feeding at Etang de Biguglia on 2nd.

**European White Stork** *Ciconia ciconia*

A surprise find of three in a field not far from Bastia Airport on 30th, with two seen on 2nd probably involving the same birds.

**Little Bittern** *Ixobrychus minutus*

Wonderful close views of a female at Barcaggio on the afternoon of 1st.

**Squacco Heron** *Ardeola ralloides*

Two at Barcaggio on 1st and another seen in flight at Etang de Biguglia on 2nd.

**Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis*

Six fed around sheep near Etang d'Urbino on 30th.

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*

Singles on 26th and 27th and at least four birds at coastal wetlands on 30th.

**Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea*

Some great views of this smart species with a total of four birds at coastal wetlands on 30th and one at Etang de Biguglia on 2nd.

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba*

This species continues to increase in Western Europe and we logged a total of seven birds at coastal wetlands, including five on 30th.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*

A fair scattering around coastal wetlands with a max. day count of 10+ on 30th.

**Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Two seen by some of the group at Etang d'Urbino on 30th.

**European Shag** *Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii*

Three on a wrecked ship off Calzarellu on 30th and two off Cap Corse on 1st, all immature birds. One of the latter gave excellent views of the plumage features of this distinctive race, particularly the very pale belly and upper wing coverts of immature birds.

**Lesser Kestrel** *Falco naumanni*

One seen over Etang d'Urbino before lunch on 2nd. Initially a controversial bird, the small amount of spotting still present on the upperparts and the lack of blue-grey in the greater coverts are typical of 1st-summer Lesser Kestrels; more important are the very weak moustachial stripe, strong contrast between whitish primaries and their very dark tips and the buffy wash to the underparts.

**Common Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*

Noted on all but one day and most common along the coastal plain.

**Red-footed Falcon** *Falco vespertinus*

A great year for this species with small parties regularly seen along the coastal plain, especially on 30th when a minimum of 20 birds was logged.

**Eurasian Hobby** *Falco subbuteo*

A good scattering amongst the Red-footed Falcons with at least five hunting dragonflies over the pool at Calzarellu on 30th and one or two near Bastia on 1st and 2nd.

**Peregrine** *Falco peregrinus brookei*

One seen by Trevor in the Asco Valley on 28th and another seen well along Rau de Lagani on 29th.

**Osprey *Pandion haliaetus***

Nice views of one which cruised in over Etang de Biguglia on 2nd before lunch.

**European Honey Buzzard *Pernis apivorus***

A little early for these, but we did manage a couple of singles from our coffee stop on 30th and another was seen by some on 2nd.

**Red Kite *Milvus milvus***

A good scattering daily of this wonderful bird.

**Lammergeier *Gypaetus barbatus***

A star bird! After two birds passed over so high we needed a radio telescope to find them (!), we later had superb views of a minimum of three adult birds around our lunch stop on 28th.

**Western Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus***

Noted daily around coastal wetlands from 30th to 2nd, though most seemed to be idling, non-breeding immatures.

**Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus***

Superb views of a hunting 1st-summer male at the stony fields on 28th and an adult female at Etang de Biguglia on 2nd.

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus woltersstorffi***

One very distant speck passed high overhead along Rau de Lagani on 29th. Local form endemic to Corsica and Sardinia.

**Common Buzzard *Buteo Buteo pojana***

Common and seen daily in small numbers.

**Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos homeyeri***

What a treat! We actually made double figures during the course of the week, with three together on 27th, four together and a further single on 28th and finally, one on 29th. Always a great bird.

**European Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus***

Unfortunately a 'heard-only', at Etang de Biguglia on 2nd.

**Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus***

One at Calzarellu on 30th and at least two at Etang de Biguglia on 2nd.

**Common Coot *Fulica atra***

Little groups scattered around the coastal wetlands and noted daily from 30th to 2nd.

**Eurasian Stone-curlew *Burhinus oediconemus***

At least 10 at a regular gathering location south of Bastia on 2nd.

**Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus***

Two seen at Etang d'Urbino on 30th.

**Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago***

One seen briefly in flight by some of the group at Calzarellu on 30th.

**Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia***

Two distantly at Etang d'Urbino on 30th and one much closer at Barcaggio on 1st.

**Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola***

A small scattering of birds at coastal wetlands with a max. day count of 12+ on 1st, mostly at Barcaggio.

**Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos***

One seen briefly on 1st on our drive up to the hotel, two at Barcaggio on 1st and at least three at Etang de Biguglia on 2nd.

**Audouin's Gull *Larus audouinii***

Super views (eventually!) of this aristocratic gull. Three seen briefly in flight along the coast on 30th, one seen at lunch by some of the group on 1st then two superb birds at Etang de Biguglia on 2nd.

**Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis***

Common along the coast and offshore.

**Slender-billed Gull *Larus genei***

A 1st-summer bird showed very well, if a little briefly, at Etang de Biguglia on 2nd.

**Common Tern *Sterna hirundo***

Noted by some of the group at Nice Airport on our way out on 26th.

**Rock Dove *Columba livia***

A handful of birds around towns in Corsica, all feral birds.

**Common Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus***

One to two noted daily from 26th to 20th in the foothills, totalling a minimum of eight birds.

**European Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur***

Small numbers daily in the foothills and lowlands from 29th with highest count of 10+ on both 1st and 2nd. Now that the European Court have *finally* ruled against Malta on the spring shooting of Turtle Doves and Quail, perhaps we may see a few more in future...

**Eurasian Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto***

Is there anywhere they haven't colonised?! Noted daily throughout the island in towns and villages.

**Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus***

Heard or seen on four dates, including a super pair (the female with a rusty chest band) along Rau de Lagani on 29th and two at Etang de Biguglia on 2nd, one of which was a brown female of the uncommon 'hepatic' form.

**Eurasian Scops Owl *Otus scops***

Heard calling in the darkest depths of the night by some of the group during our stay at Corte, but sadly never seen....

**Alpine Swift *Tachymartia melba***

Local, but some nice views. About 15 in the Restonica Valley on 27th, 12 in the Asco Valley on 29th and two at Cap Corse on 1st.

**Common Swift *Apus apus***

Common over towns throughout the trip.

**Pallid Swift *Apus pallidus brehmorum***

Two eventually seen very well over the car park at Barcaggio on 1st.

**European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster***

A real treat! Noted daily except 27th, beginning with some high-flying migrants, and ending with fabulously obliging flocks along the fences near our hotel on 1st and 2nd.

**Common Hoopoe *Upupa epops***

Evasive at first, but seen very well daily from 29th, including a number of birds calling on territory.

**Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major parroti***

Widespread and noted daily in small numbers. Best views were of the female near a nest site at Etang de Biguglia on 2nd. Local birds have a distinctive buff-grey wash to the underparts.

**Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator badius***

A good scattering of birds on four dates and best seen on 29th when at least four pairs were seen. All those seen well were clearly of the local form, *badius* which differs from mainland birds in having little or no white at the base of the primaries.

**Eurasian Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus***

One or two of the group managed to glimpse a couple of these at Etang de Biguglia on 2nd but they were pretty elusive.

**Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius corsicanus***

Widespread and common and noted daily. Local form endemic to Corsica.

**Common Magpie *Pica pica***

Does not occur on Corsica, but noted by sharp eyes at Nice on the way out!

**Alpine Chough *Pyrrhocorax graculus***

At least 10 along the Restonica Valley on 27th and three in the Asco Valley on 28th.

**Hooded Crow *Corvus cornix***

Widespread and recorded every day.

**Common Raven *Corvus corax***

Quite common with small numbers noted on all but the first day – often giving raptors a hard time!

**Coal Tit *Periparus ater sardus***

Common in pinewoods in the uplands and noted daily to 30th. This somewhat uninspiring, drab form is endemic to Corsica and Sardinia.

**Great Tit *Parus major corsus***

Widespread and logged every day of the tour.

**Eurasian Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus ogliastroae***

Common and widespread and noted daily.

**Common Sand Martin *Riparia riparia***

A small scattering of birds daily from 30th at coastal wetlands.

**Eurasian Crag Martin *Ptyonoprogne rupestris***

Quite common in the hills and mountains and noted daily to 29th. Also found breeding at Nice Airport – an aaahhhh moment!

**Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica***

Noted daily and particularly common along the coast where a daily northward passage of migrants was taking place.

**Northern House Martin *Delichon urbicum***

Noted in small numbers daily.

**Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus irbii***

Common and heard on all but two days. Some good close views of this distinctive form on a number of occasions too.

**Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla***

Somewhat subliminal!!! The briefest of glimpses of a fly-over bird at Barcaggio on 1st for some of us.

**Woodlark *Lullula arborea***

Quite common in the foothills and noted in suitable habitat on three dates, often giving excellent views.

**Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis***

Plenty singing around Etang de Biguglia on 2nd and several perched birds seen well.

**Cetti's Warbler *Cettia cetti***

Heard calling in the lowlands on five dates – but did you see one?!

**Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus***

Seemingly late this year, with just one heard by some of the group at Calzarellu on 30th.

**Eurasian Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus***

Two singing deep within the reeds at Calzarellu on 30th.

**Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus***

A single migrant in Evergreen Oak scrub along Cap Corse on 1st.

**Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita***

Single birds heard singing on 27th and 1st.

**Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix***

At least two along Cap Corse on 1st and at least four in poplars near Etang de Biguglia on 2nd.

**Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla pauluccii***

Local birds heard singing or glimpsed in the foothills with a scattering of migrants along the coast.

**Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin***

Two in scrubby oaks at Barcaggio on 1st.

**Marmora's Warbler** *Sylvia sarda*

On 29th, one seen right beside the road when we stopped for the sea daffodils, then a superb pair, including an amazingly approachable male (actually, he approached us!) which gave wonderful views.

**Subalpine Warbler** *Sylvia cantillans moltonii*

Common and noted daily in suitable habitat. Some great views of this interesting subspecies, especially on the pre-breakfast walk at Corte and in the maquis on 29th. Of greatest interest is the Wren-like call, so unlike the call of other forms of this species.

**Sardinian Warbler** *Sylvia melanocephala*

Widespread and common, though not in the higher valleys.

**Firecrest** *Regulus ignicapilla*

Commonly heard along roadsides and one or two seen very well, especially that pre-breakfast male at Corte!

**Northern Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes koenigi*

Easily heard daily in the hills, but not so easy to see – though we managed a few! This local form is endemic to Corsica and Sardinia.

**Corsican Nuthatch** *Sitta whiteheadi*

Wonderful views of two feeding in a roadside pine in the Restonica Valley on 27th and two seen there by some of the group the following day. Also one seen by Trevor on a pre-breakfast walk on 30th.

**Eurasian Treecreeper** *Certhia familiaris corsa*

One seen well in the Restonica Valley on 27th. A very distinct, endemic form which not only looks different to mainland birds but sound different too...

**European Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris*

Not noted on Corsica (where it is only a winter visitor) but one or two at Nice on the way out.

**Spotless Starling** *Sturnus unicolor*

Noted daily in small numbers around towns and villages and at coastal grasslands.

**Eurasian Blackbird** *Turdus merula*

Widespread and noted daily.

**Song Thrush** *Turdus philomelos*

One reported to us by Don and Sue, seen on their 'day-off' on 1st.

**Mistle Thrush** *Turdus viscivorus deichleri*

One or two heard or seen in the foothills on 27th and 28th, but elusive.

**European Robin** *Erithacus rubecula*

Typically shy (not like British birds!), we did catch the odd glimpse, especially of the bird at our Restonica coffee stop on 27th.

**Common Nightingale** *Luscinia megarhynchos*

The usual 'heard-onlys' most days, but some did show at times, especially along Rau de Lagani on 29th where two chased each other around the bushes for quite some time (particularly enjoyed by Ann!).

**Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros*

A single bird seen at the end of the road in the Restonica Valley on 27th disappeared all too quickly.

**Common Redstart** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

A couple of nice spring males was seen at Barcaggio on 1st.

**Whinchat** *Saxicola rubetra*

A good passage was taking place with migrants noted daily from 28th. Max. day counts of 10+ on 30th and 1st.

**European Stonechat** *Saxicola rubicola*

At least three birds seen during our travels on 30th, including a couple of smart adult males.

**Northern Wheatear** *Oenanthe oenanthe*

A total of six birds logged during the course of the week, all likely to be migrants heading much further north.

**Blue Rock-thrush** *Monticola solitarius*

One in the Golu Valley on 26th, two in Restonica Valley on 27th and one in the Asco Valley on 28th – though all rather high!

**Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata*

Too early in the year for local birds of the endemic race, but migrants heading north at the coast included one at Barcaggio on 1st and two at Etang de Biguglia on 2nd.

**Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula hypoleuca*

Just a single female at Barcaggio on 1st.

**White-throated Dipper** *Cinclus cinclus*

Three birds along the Restonica Valley on 27th, including a pair nest-building. Also two singles along the same river on 28th.

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*

Not present on Corsica but good numbers seen around Nice Airport.

**Italian Sparrow** *Passer x italiae*

How easily some birds are dismissed!! All 'House Sparrows-types' on Corsica are this form (save for the odd Spanish Sparrow that makes it to the south end from Sardinia every so often) and confusion has existed for some time as to the status of these birds. Various considered a subspecies of either House Sparrow or Spanish Sparrow, more recent research suggests that these birds probably originated as a hybrid between the two, but have become a stabilised population which breeds true. As such, they may well soon be recognised as a good species in their own right.

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus*

Quite common at the coast around our hotel and around Etang de Biguglia and noted daily from 30th to 2nd.

**Rock Sparrow *Petronia petronia***

Local, but common where found in the foothill fields. Double figures recorded daily on 28th, 29th and 30th, including excellent views of birds perched on overhead wires.

**Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava***

This complex of forms seems likely to be split into more than one species in the not too distant future, so a full list of those seen is given:

**Blue-headed Wagtail *Motacilla flava flava***

One male on 30th and at least one male and two females on 2nd. Breeds throughout most of mainland Europe. Blue-grey head, yellow throat, strong, white supercilium.

**Grey-headed Wagtail *Motacilla flava thunbergi***

Single males on 30th and 2nd. Breeds from Scandinavia eastward to Siberia. Grey head with black face, yellow throat.

**Ashy-headed Wagtail *Motacilla flava cinereocapilla***

One male (without a tail!) on 2nd. Breeds in Italy, Sicily and Sardinia. Grey head with a slight pale supercilium behind the eye, white throat.

**Iberian Wagtail *Motacilla flava iberiae***

One male on 30th and at least one male and one female on 2nd. Breeds largely in Iberia. Blue-grey head, white supercilium and white throat. Note that Corsican breeding birds are intergrades between Iberian and Ashy-headed Wagtails and share the distinctive buzzy call of these southern forms.

**Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea***

One or two pairs noted along mountain streams, especially in the Restonica and Asco valleys. Nice views of a pair at Corte.

**White Wagtail *Motacilla alba alba***

Just two seen, in the cow field along the N200 on 30th.

**Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris***

Somewhat elusive singles on 28th and 29th were followed by two seen well near our hotel at the coast on 2nd. Also one in song at Barcaggio – but we never did see it!

**Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis***

Migrants heard calling overhead on 29th and 30th and one finally seen very well near the Little Bittern at Barcaggio on 1st.

**Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus***

One flew right past us, calling, at Barcaggio on 1st.

**Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs***

Widespread and noted daily throughout the trip.

**European Serin *Serinus serinus***

Common and noted daily, especially in the lowlands but also around towns higher up.

**European Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris***

Small numbers logged daily from 28th; perhaps best seen around our coastal hotel.

**European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis tschusii***

Small parties and pairs recorded daily. Local form endemic to Corsica, Sardinia and Sicily.

**Corsican Finch *Carduelis corsicana***

Widespread and noted daily, though often just flighty pairs overhead. We did have excellent views at times, however, especially that super male by the Genoan bridge on 30th. Recently split from Citril Finch *Carduelis citrinella* and best distinguished by its distinctive olive-brown, well-streaked mantle.

**Common Linnet *Carduelis cannabina***

Small groups noted in the foothills and around Cap Corse with max. count of 10+ on 29th along Rau de Lagani.

**Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra***

Heard or seen in suitable open habitats on all but two days.

**Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana***

Nice going Gill! A great find of a female atop a bramble bush – then briefly in the road before a passing van came along – on our pre-breakfast walk on 2nd.

**Cirl Bunting *Emberiza cirlus***

Common and widespread and noted daily. Sadly the endemic form has now been lumped!!

## Mammals

**European Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus***

Three near our coastal hotel before breakfast on 2nd – real survivors!

## Reptiles & Amphibians

**Tyrrhenian Tree Frog *Hyla sarda***

Heard in a hedge near Etang d'Urbino on 30th.

**Italian Pool Frog *Pelophylax bergeri***

Common at coastal wetlands.

**Hermann's Tortoise *Eurotestudo hermanni***

Just for the record, some cheeky little babies in the back garden of the café on 28th. All part of a good local initiative to set up a captive breeding programme to boost the dwindling wild population.

**Moorish Gecko *Tarentola mauritanica***

Noted most evenings outside our rooms at Corte.

**Italian Wall Lizard *Podarcis siculus***

Noted on three dates, mostly in flatter, lowland areas and river valleys.

**Tyrrhenian Wall Lizard *Podarcis tiliguerta***

The common lizard of the island, seen daily in all habitats.

**Butterflies**

Swallowtail *Papilio machaon*  
 Scarce Swallowtail *Iphiclides podalirius*  
 Large White *Pieris brassicae*  
 Small White *Artogeia rapae*  
 Green-veined White *Artogeia napi*  
 Orange-tip *Anthocharis cardamines*  
 Clouded Yellow *Colias crocea*  
 Brimstone *Gonepteryx rhamni*  
 Cleopatra *Gonepteryx cleopatra*  
 Green Hairstreak *Callophrys rubi*  
 Small Copper *Lycaena phlaeas*  
 Geranium Bronze *Cacyreus marshalli*  
 Brown Argus *Aricia agestis*  
 Common Blue *Polyommatus icarus*  
 Nettle-tree Butterfly *Libythea celtis*  
 Southern White Admiral *Limenitis reducta*  
 Peacock *Inachis io*  
 Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta*  
 Painted Lady *Vanessa cardui*  
 Queen-of-Spain Fritillary *Issoria lathonia*  
 Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina*  
 Small Heath *Coenonympha pamphilus*  
 Speckled Wood *Pararge aegeria*  
 Wall Brown *Lasiommata megera*

**Dragonflies & Damselflies**

*We were too early really for this group and many individuals had only just emerged and hadn't coloured up, making them a little harder to determine at a distance!*

Common Bluetail *Ischnura elegans*  
 the identification of several

The field guide doesn't list this species for Corsica, but my photos confirm

seen along the back of the beach at Calzarellu on 30th.

Island Bluetail *Ischnura genei*

Calzarellu. Endemic to the Tyrrhenian islands.

Lesser Emperor *Anax parthenope*

Barcaggio

Hairy Hawker *Brachytron pratense*

Etang de Biguglia (Oriole spot)

Black-tailed Skimmer *Orthetrum cancellatum*

Etang de Biguglia (fort)

Red-veined Darter *Sympetrum fonscolombii*

Barcaggio

Broad Scarlet *Crocothemis erythraea* Calzarellu

**Flora**

The list of plants recorded was pretty good for so early in the season, though many of the endemics were not yet in flower. The following list contains those species that I know at least some of you looked at at some point! The numbers represent the number of days we noted the species; e = equals a Corsican or regional endemic (usually including Sardinia and/or the Balearics or immediate Italian/Spanish coastline). P = species afforded special protection in Corsica.

Branched Horsetail	<i>Equisetum ramosissimum</i>	2	Yellow Vetch	<i>Vicia lutea</i>	2
Great Horsetail	<i>Equisetum telmateia</i>	2	Bithynian Vetch	<i>Vicia bithynica</i>	4
Rusty-back Fern	<i>Ceterach officinarum</i>	2	Hairy Tare	<i>Vicia hirsuta</i>	4
Maidenhair Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	1	Fodder Vetch	<i>Vicia villosa</i>	6
Bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	5	Yellow Vetchling	<i>Lathyrus aphaca</i>	2
Southern Polypody	<i>Polypodium cambricum</i>	2	Crimson Pea	<i>Lathyrus clymenum</i>	1

e	Aleppo Pine	<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	3	Annual Yellow Vetchling	<i>Lathyrus annuus</i>	1
	Black Pine	<i>Pinus nigra laricio</i>	3	Brown Vetch	<i>Lathyrus setifolius</i>	2
	Maritime Pine	<i>Pinus pinaster</i>	6	Judas Tree	<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i>	3
	Stone Pine	<i>Pinus pinea</i>	5	Honey-locust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	2
	Mediterranean Cypress	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	6	Silver Wattle	<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	2
	Common Juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	1	Blue-leaved Wattle	<i>Acacia saligna</i>	4
	Prickly Juniper	<i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i>	3	Nice Milkwort	<i>Polygala nicaeensis</i>	1
	Phoenician Juniper	<i>Juniperus phoenicea</i>	2	Bramble	<i>Rubus ulmifolius</i>	7
	Common Water-plantain	<i>Alisma plantago-aquatica</i>	1	Evergreen Rose	<i>Rosa sempervirens</i>	2
P	Posidonia	<i>Posidonia oceanica</i>	2	Dog Rose	<i>Rosa canina</i>	3
	Italian Arum	<i>Arum italicum</i>	4	Salad Burnet	<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	3
eP		<i>Helicodiceros muscivorus</i>	1	Creeping Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	4
	Common Smilax	<i>Smilax aspera</i>	3	Wild Strawberry	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	1
eP		<i>Gagea soleirolii</i>	1	Quince	<i>Cydonia oblonga</i>	1
	Sharp-leaved Asparagus	<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	5	Almond-leaved Pear	<i>Pyrus spinosa</i>	4
	Common Asparagus	<i>Asparagus officinalis</i>	2	Rowan	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	1
	Common Star-of-Bethlehem	<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i>	1	Loquat	<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	1
	Tassel Hyacinth	<i>Muscari comosum</i>	6	Firethorn	<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i>	4
	Chives	<i>Allium schoenoprasum</i>	1	Common Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	6
	Three-cornered Garlic	<i>Allium triquetrum</i>	3	Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	4
	Rosy Garlic	<i>Allium roseum</i>	3	Almond	<i>Prunus dulcis</i>	3
	Hairy Garlic	<i>Allium subhirsutum</i>	1	Wild Cherry	<i>Prunus avium</i>	1
	Branched Asphodel	<i>Asphodelus ramosus</i>	7	Oleaster	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	3
	Sea Daffodil	<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	2	Buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus catharticus</i>	1
e	Illyrian Sea Daffodil	<i>Pancratium illyricum</i>	4	Southern Nettle Tree	<i>Celtis australis</i>	6
	Yellow Iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	3	Small-leaved Elm	<i>Ulmus minor</i>	7
	Bearded Iris	<i>Iris germanica</i>	2	White Mulberry	<i>Morus alba</i>	4
P	Eastern Gladiolus	<i>Gladiolus communis</i>	1	Common Fig	<i>Ficus carica</i>	7
e	Corsican Crocus	<i>Crocus corsicus</i>	1	Roman Nettle	<i>Urtica pilulifera</i>	3
	Century-plant	<i>Agave americana</i>	2	Common Nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	4
		<i>Ophrys incubacea</i>	1	Small Nettle	<i>Urtica urens</i>	1
	Southern Early Purple Orchid	<i>Orchis olbiensis</i>	1		<i>Urtica atrovirens</i>	5
	Green-winged Orchid	<i>Orchis morio</i>	4	Pellitory-of-the-wall	<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	7
	Pink Butterfly Orchid	<i>Orchis papilionacea</i>	3	Hop	<i>Humulus lupulus</i>	1
P	Bug Orchid	<i>Orchis coriophora</i>	1	Walnut	<i>Juglans regia</i>	6
	Loose-flowered Orchid	<i>Orchis laxiflora</i>	1	Sweet Chestnut	<i>Castanea sativa</i>	5
	Tongue Orchid	<i>Serapias lingua</i>	3	Holm Oak	<i>Quercus ilex</i>	6
P	Small-flowered Tongue Orchid	<i>Serapias parviflora</i>	1	Cork Oak	<i>Quercus suber</i>	6
	Heart-flowered Orchid	<i>Serapias cordigera</i>	2	Downy Oak	<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	4
	Dense-flowered Orchid	<i>Neotinea maculata</i>	2	Sessile Oak	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	1
	Dwarf Fan Palm	<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	1	Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	1
	Date Palm	<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i>	1		<i>Alnus alnobetula</i>	1
	Toad Rush	<i>Juncus bufonius</i>	2	e	<i>Alnus cordata</i>	1
	Sea Rush	<i>Juncus maritimus</i>	1		<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	7
	Sharp Rush	<i>Juncus acutus</i>	3		<i>Betula pendula</i>	1
	Blunt-flowered Rush	<i>Juncus subnodulosus</i>	1		<i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i>	3
	False Fox Sedge	<i>Carex cuprina</i>	1		<i>Echallium elaterium</i>	1
	Remote Sedge	<i>Carex remota</i>	1		<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	7
	Yellow Sedge	<i>Carex viridula oedocarpa</i>	1		<i>Sinapis arvensis</i>	2
	Common Spike-rush	<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	1		<i>Sinapis alba</i>	1
		<i>Cyperus capitatus</i>	3		<i>Hirschfeldia incana</i>	5
	Great Fen-sedge	<i>Cladium mariscus</i>	1		<i>Malcolmia ramosissima</i>	1
	Round-headed Club-rush	<i>Scirpoides holoschoenus</i>	3		<i>Matthiola tricuspidata</i>	1
	Sea Club-rush	<i>Bolboschoenus maritimus</i>	1	Three-horned Stock	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	2
	Black Bog-rush	<i>Schoenus nigricans</i>	1	Garlic Mustard	<i>Sisymbrium orientale</i>	1
		<i>Phyllostachys aurea</i>	3	Eastern Rocket	<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	7
	Tall Fescue	<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	2	Hedge Mustard	<i>Nasturtium officinale</i>	2
	Perennial Rye-grass	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	5	Water-cress	<i>Arabis verna</i>	3
	Italian Rye-grass	<i>Lolium multiflorum</i>	1	Spring Rock-cress	<i>Arabis hirsuta</i>	1
	Dune Fescue	<i>Vulpia fasciculata</i>	2	Hairy Rock-cress	<i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i>	1
	Rat's-tail Fescue	<i>Vulpia myuros</i>	4	Thale-cress	<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	4
	Sea Fern-grass	<i>Catapodium marinum</i>	2	Hairy Bittercress	<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	4
	Fern-grass	<i>Catapodium rigidum</i>	2	Small Alison	<i>Alyssum alyssoides</i>	2
	Annual Meadow-grass	<i>Poa annua</i>	7	Common Whitlowgrass	<i>Erophila verna</i>	3
	Rough Meadow-grass	<i>Poa trivialis</i>	3	Southern Warty Cabbage	<i>Bunias erucago</i>	5
	Alpine Meadow-grass	<i>Poa alpina</i>	3	Woad	<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>	6
	Cock's-foot	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	3		<i>Teesdalia coronopifolia</i>	1
	Golden Dog's-tail	<i>Lamarckia aurea</i>	2		<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	7
	Greater Quaking-grass	<i>Briza maxima</i>	2	Shepherd's-purse	<i>Lepidium graminifolium</i>	1
	Small Melick	<i>Melica minuta</i>	1	Tall Pepperwort	<i>Cardaria draba</i>	4
	Great Brome	<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	3	Hoary Cress	<i>Coronopus didymus</i>	1
	Barren Brome	<i>Bromus sterilis</i>	2	Lesser Swine-cress	<i>Cakile maritima</i>	2
	Compact Brome	<i>Bromus madritensis</i>	6	Sea Rocket	<i>Lunaria annua</i>	1
	Soft Brome	<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i>	4	Honesty	<i>Reseda alba</i>	3
	Mediterranean False-brome	<i>Brachypodium retusum</i>	3	White Mignonette	<i>Reseda lutea</i>	1
	Sea Couch	<i>Elytrigia atherica</i>	2	Wild Mignonette	<i>Sesamoides purpurascens</i>	2
	Common Couch	<i>Elytrigia repens</i>	3		<i>Tropaeolum majus</i>	1
				Nasturtium	<i>Tilia tomentosa</i>	1
				Silver Lime		

Sand Couch	<i>Elytrigia juncea</i>	1	Smaller Tree Mallow	<i>Lavatera cretica</i>	2	
	<i>Aegilops geniculata</i>	1	Hyerer Tree Mallow	<i>Lavatera olbia</i>	2	
Wall Barley	<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	6	Common Mallow	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	4	
Sea Barley	<i>Hordeum marinum</i>	1	Dwarf Mallow	<i>Malva neglecta</i>	1	
Slender Oat	<i>Avena barbata</i>	7	Marsh Mallow	<i>Althaea officinalis</i>	2	
Mediterranean Hair-grass	<i>Rostraria cristata</i>	1		<i>Cistus creticus</i>	6	
Hare's-tail Grass	<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	4	Narrow-leaved Rock-rose	<i>Cistus monspeliensis</i>	6	
Sweet Vernal Grass	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	3	Sage-leaved Rock-rose	<i>Cistus salviifolius</i>	6	
Yorkshire-fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	1		<i>Halimium halimifolium</i>	2	
Orange Foxtail	<i>Alopecurus aequalis</i>	1	Spotted Rock-rose	<i>Tuberaria guttata</i>	3	
Curved Hard-grass	<i>Parapholis incurva</i>	2		<i>Daphne gnidium</i>	4	
Reed Canary-grass	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	1		<i>Thymelaea hirsuta</i>	1	
Giant Reed	<i>Arundo donax</i>	6		<i>Thymelaea tartonraira</i>	1	
Common Reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	4	Horse-chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	2	
Pampas-grass	<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	2	Montpelier Maple	<i>Acer monspessulanum</i>	2	
	<i>Typha domingensis</i>	1	Lentisc	<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	6	
Box	<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	1	Tree-of-heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	7	
London Plane	<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>	7	Indian Bead Tree	<i>Melia azedarach</i>	1	
Lesser Celandine	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	1	Western Strawberry Tree	<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	5	
	<i>Ranunculus</i>					
Adder's-tongue Spearwort	<i>ophioglossifolius</i>	1	Tree Heath	<i>Erica arborea</i>	6	
Celery-leaved Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus sceleratus</i>	3		<i>Erica multiflora</i>	1	
Small-flowered Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus parviflorus</i>	3	Ivy-leaved Cyclamen	<i>Cyclamen hederifolium</i>	1	
	<i>Ranunculus velutinus</i>	1	Spring Sowbread	<i>Cyclamen repandum</i>	2	
Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	3	Yellow Loosestrife	<i>Lysimachia vulgaris</i>	1	
Pond Water Crowfoot	<i>Ranunculus peltatus</i>	2	Blue Pimpernel	<i>Anagallis foemina</i>	1	
Fragrant Clematis	<i>Clematis flammula</i>	1	Scarlet Pimpernel	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	4	
Traveller's-joy	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	1	Field Gromwell	<i>Lithospermum arvense</i>	1	
e Corsican Hellebore	<i>Helleborus lividus</i>	3	Purple Viper's-bugloss	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	4	
e	<i>Berberis aetnensis</i>	1	Borage	<i>Borago officinalis</i>	4	
	<i>Papaver somniferum</i>	4	Early Forgetmenot	<i>Myosotis ramosissima</i>	3	
Opium Poppy	<i>Papaver argemone</i>	1	Blue Houndstongue	<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	2	
Prickly Poppy	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	7	Yellow-wort	<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	1	
Common Poppy	<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	6	Yellow Centaury	<i>Cicendia filiformis</i>	2	
White Ramping Fumitory	<i>Fumaria bastardii</i>	5	P	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	7	
Tall Ramping Fumitory	<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	3	Theligonum	<i>Theligonum cynocrambe</i>	1	
Common Fumitory	<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	2	Common Madder	<i>Rubia perigrina</i>	2	
American Pokeweed	<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	3	Field Madder	<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	7	
Hottentot-fig	<i>Carpobrotus acinaciformis</i>	3	Crosswort	<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	1	
Red Hottentot-fig	<i>Aptenia cordifolia</i>	1	Glabrous Crosswort	<i>Cruciata glabra</i>	1	
Heart-leaf Ice-plant	<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i>	4	Hedge Bedstraw	<i>Galium mollugo</i>	3	
Prickly-pear	<i>Beta vulgaris maritima</i>	1	Cleavers	<i>Galium aparine</i>	5	
Sea Beet	<i>Sarcocornia fruticosa</i>	1	Flowering Ash	<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	5	
	<i>Salsola kali</i>	1	Chinese Privet	<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	1	
Prickly Saltwort	<i>Suaeda spicata</i>	1	Olive	<i>Olea europaea</i>	7	
Annual Sea-blite	<i>Chenopodium vulvaria</i>	1		<i>Phillyrea angustifolia</i>	6	
Stinking Goosefoot	<i>Chenopodium album</i>	3		<i>Phillyrea latifolia</i>	1	
Fat-hen	<i>Atriplex prostrata</i>	2	Vervain	<i>Verbena officinalis</i>	1	
Spear-leaved Orache	<i>Halimione portulacoides</i>	1	P	Chaste Tree	<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	1
Sea-purslane	<i>Montia minor</i>	1	e		<i>Teucrium marum</i>	4
Small Blinks	<i>Paronychia argentea</i>	1	Wood Sage	<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	1	
	<i>Corrigiola litoralis</i>	1	Felty Germander	<i>Teucrium capitatum</i>	2	
Strapwort	<i>Corrigiola telephifolia</i>	1	Rosemary	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	6	
	<i>Illecebrum verticillatum</i>	1	French Lavender	<i>Lavandula stoechas</i>	4	
Coral-necklace	<i>Spergula arvensis</i>	1	Pennyroyal	<i>Mentha pulegium</i>	1	
Corn Spurrey	<i>Spergularia salina</i>	1	Water Mint	<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	1	
Lesser Sea-spurrey	<i>Spergularia rubra</i>	3	Round-leaved Mint	<i>Mentha suaveolens</i>	2	
Sand Spurrey	<i>Polycarpon tetraphyllum</i>	1	Lemon-balm	<i>Melissa officinalis</i>	3	
Four-leaved Allseed	<i>Scleranthus annuus</i>	2	White Horehound	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	1	
Annual Knawel	<i>Sagina procumbens</i>	6		<i>Sideritis romana</i>	1	
Procumbent Pearlwort	<i>Sagina pilifera</i>	1	e	Sticky Woundwort	<i>Stachys glutinosa</i>	4
e Tyrrhenian Pearlwort	<i>Arenaria balearica</i>	1	Field Woundwort	<i>Stachys arvensis</i>	1	
e Balearic Sandwort	<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>	2	Henbit Dead-nettle	<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i>	1	
Thyme-leaved Sandwort	<i>Moenchia erecta</i>	1	Red Dead-nettle	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	4	
Upright Chickweed	<i>Stellaria neglecta</i>	1	Cut-leaved Dead-nettle	<i>Lamium hybridum</i>	1	
Greater Chickweed	<i>Stellaria pallida</i>	5	Wild Clary	<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	3	
Lesser Chickweed	<i>Stellaria media</i>	7	Glandular Plantain	<i>Plantago afra</i>	1	
Common Chickweed	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	3	Buck's-horn Plantain	<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	6	
Common Mouse-ear	<i>Cerastium glomeratum</i>	2		<i>Plantago lagopus</i>	4	
Sticky Mouse-ear	<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	1	Ribwort Plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	4	
Soapwort	<i>Petrorhagia velutina</i>	3		<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	3	
	<i>Silene latifolia</i>	4	Hoary Mullein	<i>Verbascum pulverulentum</i>	2	
White Champion	<i>Silene flos-cuculi</i>	1	Great Mullein	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	2	
Ragged Robin	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	1	Nettle-leaved Figwort	<i>Scrophularia peregrina</i>	1	
Bladder Champion	<i>Silene gallica</i>	5	Common Toadflax	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	1	
Small-flowered Catchfly	<i>Silene colorata</i>	1	Jersey Toadflax	<i>Linaria pelisseriana</i>	4	
Mediterranean Catchfly	<i>Polygonum maritimum</i>	1		<i>Linaria arvensis</i>	1	
Sea Knotgrass						

	Common Knotgrass	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	3		Ivy-leaved Toadflax	<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	1
	Sheep's Sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	4		Weasel's-snout	<i>Misopates orontium</i>	3
	French Sorrel	<i>Rumex scutatus</i>	1		Common Foxglove	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	2
	Common Sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	1		Blue Water Speedwell	<i>Veronica anagallis-aquatica</i>	2
	Curled Dock	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	4		Ivy-leaved Speedwell	<i>Veronica hederifolia</i>	2
	Clustered Dock	<i>Rumex conglomeratus</i>	3		Pale Speedwell	<i>Veronica cymbalaria</i>	1
	Fiddle Dock	<i>Rumex pulcher</i>	3		Common Field Speedwell	<i>Veronica persica</i>	6
	Horned Dock	<i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i>	4		Wall Speedwell	<i>Veronica arvensis</i>	1
P	African Tamarisk	<i>Tamarix africana</i>	3		Yellow Bartsia	<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	2
	Common Osyris	<i>Osyris alba</i>	2			<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	3
	Mistletoe	<i>Viscum album</i>	1		Bellardia	<i>Bartsia trixago</i>	1
		<i>Cytinus hypocistis</i>	1		Bean Broomrape	<i>Orobanche crenata</i>	1
	Mossy Stonecrop	<i>Crassula tillaea</i>	3		Common Broomrape	<i>Orobanche minor</i>	1
	Common Navelwort	<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	7		Ngaio	<i>Myoporum laetum</i>	3
	White Stonecrop	<i>Sedum album</i>	5		Apple of Sodom	<i>Solanum linnaeanum</i>	1
	Thick-leaved Stonecrop	<i>Sedum dasyphyllum</i>	4		Black Nightshade	<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	1
	Starry Stonecrop	<i>Sedum stellatum</i>	4		Shrub Tobacco	<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	1
		<i>Sedum caespitosum</i>	4		Sea Bindweed	<i>Calystegia soldanella</i>	1
P	Grape Vine	<i>Vitis vinifera</i>	3		Hedge Bindweed	<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	3
	Virginia Creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	1			<i>Convolvulus cantabrica</i>	1
	Herb Robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	6		Field Bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	4
	Round-leaved Cranesbill	<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	4		Japanese Pittosporum	<i>Pittosporum tobira</i>	2
	Shining Cranesbill	<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	3		Common Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	6
	Long-stalked Cranesbill	<i>Geranium columbinum</i>	2		Sea Holly	<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	3
	Cut-leaved Cranesbill	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	2		Field Eryngo	<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	4
	Dove's-foot Cranesbill	<i>Geranium molle</i>	5		Spiny Echinophora	<i>Echinophora spinosa</i>	3
	Musk Storksbill	<i>Erodium moschatum</i>	5		Cow Parsley	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	1
	Common Storksbill	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	5		Shepherd's-needle	<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	4
	Purple Loosestripe	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	2		Wild Carrot	<i>Daucus carota</i>	2
	Common Myrtle	<i>Myrtus communis</i>	4	P		<i>Pseudorlaya pumila</i>	3
	Southern Blue Gum	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	3		Alexanders	<i>Smyrniolum olusatrum</i>	6
	River Red Gum	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	5		Shrubby Hare's-ear	<i>Bupleurum fruticosum</i>	1
	Spindle	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	2		Fennel	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	5
	Evergreen Spindle	<i>Euonymus japonicus</i>	1		Mediterranean Water-dropwort	<i>Oenanthe globulosa</i>	1
	Perforate St John's-wort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	1		Hemlock Water-dropwort	<i>Oenanthe crocata</i>	1
	Early Dog Violet	<i>Viola reichenbachiana</i>	1		Wild Angelica	<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>	1
	Dwarf Pansy	<i>Viola kitaibeliana</i>	1		Giant Fennel	<i>Ferula communis</i>	7
	White Poplar	<i>Populus alba</i>	5		Dwarf Elder	<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	1
	Black Poplar	<i>Populus nigra</i>	7		Laurustinus	<i>Viburnum tinus</i>	2
	Aspen	<i>Populus tremula</i>	1		Annual Valerian	<i>Centranthus calcitrapae</i>	1
	White Willow	<i>Salix alba</i>	1		Red Valerian	<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	1
	Crack Willow	<i>Salix fragilis</i>	1		Common Cornsalad	<i>Valerianella locusta</i>	2
		<i>Salix atrocinerea</i>	5		Keel-fruited Cornsalad	<i>Valerianella carinata</i>	1
	Purple Willow	<i>Salix purpurea</i>	1		Pycnocomon	<i>Pycnocomon rutifolium</i>	4
	Mediterranean Spurge	<i>Euphorbia characias</i>	5		Venus's-looking-glass	<i>Legousia hybrida</i>	1
	Sun Spurge	<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	7		Hemp Agrimony	<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	1
		<i>Euphorbia hirsuta</i>	1		Common Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	4
	Petty Spurge	<i>Euphorbia peplus</i>	3	e		<i>Bellium bellidioides</i>	1
	Dwarf Spurge	<i>Euphorbia exigua</i>	1		Sea Aster	<i>Tripolium pannonicum</i>	1
	Sea Spurge	<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	3			<i>Pulicaria odora</i>	2
		<i>Euphorbia pithyusa</i>	1		Golden Samphire	<i>Limbarida crithmoides</i>	1
	Castor-oil Plant	<i>Ricinus communis</i>	1		Woody Fleabane	<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	5
	Pale Flax	<i>Linum bienne</i>	3		Pygmy Evax	<i>Filago pygmaea</i>	1
	Cape Sorrel	<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	2		Narrow-leaved Cudweed	<i>Filago gallica</i>	2
	Pink Sorrel	<i>Oxalis articulata</i>	3			<i>Helichrysum italicum</i>	4
e	Corsican Gorse	<i>Genista corsica</i>	3			<i>Xanthium italicum</i>	2
e		<i>Genista salzmannii</i>	4	e		<i>Santolina corsica</i>	1
	Montpellier Broom	<i>Genista monspessulana</i>	1		Corn Chamomile	<i>Anthemis arvensis</i>	2
		<i>Cytisus villosus</i>	1			<i>Anthemis maritima</i>	3
	Common Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	1		Southern Yarrow	<i>Achillea ligustica</i>	1
	Thorny Broom	<i>Calicotome spinosa</i>	2		Cottonweed	<i>Achillea maritima</i>	3
	Spanish Broom	<i>Spartium junceum</i>	5		Crown Daisy	<i>Glebionis coronaria</i>	1
	Narrow-leaved Lupin	<i>Lupinus angustifolius</i>	4		Corn Marigold	<i>Glebionis segetum</i>	2
	Pitch Trefoil	<i>Bituminaria bituminosa</i>	1			<i>Coleostephus myconis</i>	1
	Black Locust	<i>Robinia pseudacacia</i>	5		Buttonweed	<i>Cotula coronopifolia</i>	3
		<i>Lotus cytisoides</i>	2		Common Mugwort	<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	2
	Slender Bird's-foot Trefoil	<i>Lotus angustissimus</i>	1		Wormwood	<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>	1
		<i>Dorycnium hirsutum</i>	2		Field Marigold	<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	2
		<i>Dorycnium pentaphyllum</i>	1		Groundsel	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	3
		<i>Anthyllis hermanniae</i>	1		Silver Ragwort	<i>Senecio cineraria</i>	1
P	Jupiter's Beard	<i>Anthyllis barba-jovis</i>	1		Lesser Burdock	<i>Arctium minus</i>	1
	Orange Bird's-foot	<i>Ornithopus pinnatus</i>	1		Spear Thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	3
	Yellow Serradella	<i>Ornithopus compressus</i>	4		Red Star-thistle	<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>	5
	Caterpillar-plant	<i>Scorpiurus muricatus</i>	2			<i>Centaurea sphaerocephala</i>	2
	Italian Sainfoin	<i>Hedysarum coronarium</i>	1		Slender Thistle	<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>	2
		<i>Ononis variegata</i>	1		Southern Slender Thistle	<i>Carduus pycnocephalus</i>	5
	Spiny Restharrow	<i>Ononis spinosa</i>	2		Flat-topped Carline Thistle	<i>Carlina corymbosa</i>	3

