

Corsica

24th April - 1st May 2010

Tour Leaders

Mike Read
Stephen Daly
Liz Read

Daily Diary

Saturday 24th April

Due to the ash cloud from the volcano in Iceland our first Corsica tour for this year had to be cancelled. However, four of the clients were able to transfer to this tour and consequently we needed three leaders. Mike & Liz were already in Corsica so the group were escorted out from Stansted by Stephen Daly. Following an earlyish flight to Cologne there was enough time available for the group to spend a little time within the city where they saw such birds as Common Starling, Feral Pigeons and Magpie. The onward flight from Cologne was a little delayed and as the group arrived at Bastia airport, Common Kestrel, Red-footed Falcon and 3 Black Kites were seen as they taxied towards the terminal building. We were soon all heading towards Corte and our hotel in the Restonica Valley. On the way House Martins, Barn Swallows, Common and Pallid Swifts were noted and along the roadside were swathes of bright yellow Woad. After checking into our rooms we took a short walk to the restaurant and enjoyed a lovely Corsican evening meal, after which everyone headed to their rooms and a well-earned night's sleep.

Sunday 25th April

A gentle pre-breakfast walk along the Restonica Valley proved fairly fruitful with Corsican endemic subspecies of Jay, Coal Tit, Great Tit and Blue Tit. A couple of Cirl Buntings were noted whilst high overhead were Common Buzzard and Alpine Swift. A Blue Rock Thrush was sighted high on a rocky outcrop whilst a Dipper was seen in the Restonica River. The hillsides were covered in Common Asphodels and along the roadside we noted Corsican Hellebore and Spring Sowbread. As we made our way back for breakfast a Cuckoo was heard and a few members of the group saw a Corsican Nuthatch.

After breakfast we ventured further into the Restonica Valley and early on we noted a few new species including Firecrest, Common Treecreeper, Long-tailed Tit, Grey Wagtail and Sparrowhawk. As it was a warm day a few butterflies put in an appearance, including Clouded Yellow and Yellow Brimstone. Further up the valley a couple of Red Kites were seen over the ridge and were joined by a few Ravens and a group of Alpine Choughs. A distant Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush was seen and this was only the second time that a Travelling Naturalist group has encountered this species on Corsica. Other species noted here included Water Pipit, Common Kestrel and Wren.

We had lunch up at the car park, where, despite the sparsity of trees, a Great Spotted Woodpecker was regularly heard drumming. Water Pipit was again encountered and there were some Crag Martins flying around close to a large cliff where they were presumably thinking of nesting, but the bird of the lunch stop had to be the Corsican Citril Finch which everybody got really good views of.

We drove part of the way out of the Restonica Valley and tried to find Corsican Nuthatch for the whole group but they were elusive and none was found. However, we did get views of more Common Buzzards, Blackcap, Grey Wagtail and a Grey Heron and during a stroll along the road we had good views of an adult Lammergeier. Plants noted here included Corsican Hellebore, Illyrian Sea Lily, Spring Rock Cress and a new endemic plant for the Travelling Naturalist in Corsica *Barbarea rupicola*.

During a drive to the east of Corte we managed to locate a number of species including Northern Wheatear, Stonechat, Corn Buntings, Spotless Starlings, Italian Sparrows, Wood and Marmora's

Warblers. Also noted were a few flowering plants, including Pink Butterfly Orchid, Dark Ophrys, Tongue Orchid and Tassel Hyacinth.

We then returned to the hotel via Corte seeing numerous Swifts and House Martins as we drove around the edge of town.

Monday 26th April

Before our Continental breakfast some of the group took a stroll towards Corte but birds were in relatively short supply. Amongst those seen were Blackcap, Grey Wagtail and Chaffinch plus three species of tit and beside the road we were able to view Pink Butterfly, Green-veined and Man Orchids. Also noted were Shepherd's Needle, Santolina Corsica and Stachys Glutinosa with its very pungent aroma when crushed! On the way back towards the hotel three Citril Finches were seen and held everyone's attention for quite a while.

Today we headed for the Asco Valley, one of the most impressive valleys on the Island of Corsica. Varied habitats produced a good variety of birds and at our first stop we noted at least 10 Red Kites, 30 Ravens, Greenfinch, Goldfinch, Hoopoe, Willow Warbler and Marmora's Warbler. Despite everyone agreeing that the nearby river looked perfect for Dippers, none was seen (and we never have seen one here!). Further into the valley there was an area of fields that held at least five Whinchats and a couple of Wheatears that were passing through on migration. There were two pairs of Woodlarks and a single pair of Woodchat Shrikes that everybody enjoyed but unfortunately not everybody saw the Tawny Pipit that perched on a fence post briefly. Common Kestrel, Common Buzzard and Great Spotted Woodpecker were also noted here. Further up into the Asco Valley we managed to find a couple more Red Kites, a pair of Firecrests and at least two Sub Alpine Warblers whilst below us House Martins flitted around the village of Asco. A Blue Rock Thrush was noted on two or three different points of a distant ridge. Further along we paused to search through the forest and were lucky enough to find a couple of male Mouflon while overhead a few Ravens circled.

We had our picnic lunch just below Haut Asco where we noted a few species of butterflies, including Yellow Brimstone and Orange Tip. After completing the drive up to the car park we took a stroll on part of the GR20. This is a high and at times precipitous famous long distance footpath, but we were on the easy bit! Alpine Choughs and Ravens were noted around the high ridge and eventually we managed to find our main target species here - Corsican Nuthatch. A pair of these lovely birds held our attention for quite some time. Plants included the lovely Corsican Crocus, Prickly Juniper and the endemic Alder and Berberis.

A leisurely return drive had us looking at some of the same species including many of those that we saw in the lower fields on the way out, then after a pause in Ponte Leccia we returned to the hotel in the Restonica Valley.

Tuesday 27th April

We began the day with a brief walk up into the Restonica Valley where we saw many of the usual species but best of all we found a pair of Dippers that were nest building in their usual spot. Obviously the river has now gone down enough for them to consider building a nest in which to rear their young.

After breakfast we drove to Ponte Leccia and whilst the leaders were shopping, the group were seeing species like House Martins, Italian Sparrows and Red Kites overhead. We then drove to the Rau de Lagani and this gentle valley (compared to the Restonica and Asco Valleys) was much more conducive to seeing migrant birds. At our first stop a pair of Cirl Buntings and at least three Red Kites were among the birds seen and a Scarce Swallowtail butterfly was also noted. Further on a Golden Oriole gave the briefest of views but while trying to relocate it Nightingale, Turtle Dove and a Red-backed Shrike were all seen as well as a few more Red Kites. At our next stop a Golden Eagle was seen within a few seconds of our arrival. Also overhead were Common Buzzard, Kestrels and Red Kites while the deep scrub beside the stream held at least three Nightingales and a pair of Sardinian Warblers. Up on the hillside a Tawny Pipit was noted and a Cuckoo was heard calling and a little along the road there was a Wryneck and at least three Rock Sparrows. Throughout our stay here a pair of Woodchat Shrikes were almost constantly seen including being perched right on the top of a nearby Poplar tree. Across the

railway line from here we noted a lovely group of Southern Early Purple Orchids and close to the minibuses was a small clump of Hollow-leaved Asphodels.

After a most enjoyable picnic lunch we drove a little further up the valley and took a brief walk into a side valley where once again a Golden Eagle was found almost immediately. Cirl Buntings and Sardinian Warblers were also noted and a couple of Kestrels seemed intent on finding a meal as they hovered over the slopes. A good specimen of the Illyrian Sea Lily was found in bloom and members of the group spent some time photographing this lovely plant.

From here we drove on up through the valley seeing Pied Flycatcher, Woodchat Shrike and another Red-backed Shrike close to an old grass roofed barn which was home to a vast array of Green-winged and Pink Butterfly Orchids. Before turning off towards Novella we paused to view one lone specimen of Lady Orchid amongst a group of Green-winged Orchids. From here we drove to Novella seeing Northern Wheatears and a few other species on the way and then out to the main road (some took a slightly longer route to get there!!) and we then drove to Ponte Leccia for ices before returning to the hotel.

Wednesday 28th April

There was no pre-breakfast walk to allow time for packing, however some members of the group went out to take a final look at the nest building Dippers and a few other species were seen along the way.

Today we headed for the coast. Our first stop was on the edge of Corte where numerous Common Swifts and a number of Red Kites were seen. At a field a few kilometres along the N200 there was a Grey Wagtail and a pair of Woodlarks (the latter being especially well seen) but very little else. With the temperature rising and an almost clear blue sky birds seemed rather difficult to find, although at our next stop near an old Genoese bridge a couple of Linnets, a few Crag Martins and Pied Flycatcher were all added to the list. A recess in the wall of an ancient chapel had an active nest but unfortunately the adult birds were not in attendance. Best guess was that it was the nest of a Grey Wagtail.

We continued our journey to the coast and then southwards to Ghisonaccia and on the way we saw one or two Red Kites and a Common Buzzard. Our coffee stop produced good views of House Martins, Swifts and a couple of Kestrels but best of all here were the Golden Orioles that kept flying into and out of a tree just across the road from us. We then drove the short distance to Calzarellu to take a walk along the beach and overlook the nearby marsh. Cetti's Warbler greeted us with a burst of song and here we had really good views of another Golden Oriole. As we strolled further along a couple of Kestrels could be seen in the distance and we spotted at least four Red-footed Falcons. Plants seen along the beach included Sea Rocket, Sea Stock, Sea Holly, Sea Aster and Welsh Poppy. Reed and Great Reed Warblers were heard singing from the nearby Phragmites and as we gained views of the open water a few other species were noted. These included Little Grebe, Great-crested Grebes, Coots, 10 Red-crested Pochard, 3 or 4 Purple Herons, a single Whiskered Tern and a pair of Gadwall. We spent some time here viewing this fine array of birds and whilst we were doing so a pair of Little Ringed Plovers flew overhead.

Back at the car park we had our lunch in the shade of the trees and probably the same pair of Little Ringed Plovers was noted on a nearby sandbank. A Western Whipsnake was seen briefly on the bank. A few members of the group walked to a nearby field to photograph the lovely display of Loose-flowered Orchids.

From here we began the journey northwards and were soon overlooking the Etang d'Urbino. Along the side of the narrow road leading to this point a Woodchat Shrike was noted and in a field a group of sheep had at least 3 attendant Cattle Egrets (or should that be sheep egrets!) A couple of Corn Buntings were singing from the overhead wires and at the edge of the field there were a few Friar's Cows growing. A gentle stroll down the slope had us looking at a variety of birds including two Spoonbills and six Flamingos out in the etang as well as a few Little and a lone Great White Egret alongside the reeds. A lone Little Ringed Plover was seen in amongst the Sea Samphire and a couple of other waders were difficult to get on to but they were identified as Wood Sandpipers. However, one member of the group had noticed a bird that didn't seem quite right for Wood Sandpiper and as we got closer to where

these birds were feeding a lone Ruff took off along with at least 15 Wood Sandpipers. It's amazing how so many birds can remain unseen in such short vegetation! Other species noted here included three species of raptor, namely Red Kite, Common Buzzard and Marsh Harrier.

Further north we reached the Etang de Diane and a brief look here produced four more Flamingos a couple of Grey Herons, one Great White and at least a dozen Little Egrets as well as four more Red-crested Pochards. By the side of the track we found a few spikes of Violet Limodore, some Pink Butterfly Orchids and Yellow Centaury. By now time was getting on so we made the journey northwards to our hotel close to the Etang de Biguglia with a couple more Red-footed Falcons being seen during the northwards journey. In the grounds of the hotel a Hoopoe was feeding on the lawn and a Golden Oriole was seen in the nearby wood by one or two members of the group.

After dinner we strolled out into the car park to search for Scops Owls and with the aid of the hotel lights two were seen flying from tree to tree.

Thursday 29th April

A stroll around the nearby woodland was our exercise before breakfast. With the clear skies and warm weather birds were in fairly short supply although we did encounter Serin and Barn Swallows before we even left the hotel car park. A Nightingale was heard singing as we walked along the edge of the wood and a couple of Turtle Doves headed off northwards. Pied Flycatcher, Tree Pipits and Great Tits were seen within the woodland and at least seven Bee-eaters were noted flying around the area feeding. To finish the walk Cetti's Warbler and Cuckoo were both heard and a few other smaller birds were noted.

Immediately after breakfast we began our journey north towards Cap Corse but held out little hope of seeing good birds due to the fabulous weather. However, on the northward journey it was evident that Swallows, House Martins and a few Swifts were heading northwards whilst a few Audouin's Gulls were seen along the coast. We made a stop at Macinaggio for a cup of coffee and here a couple of Redshanks were seen along the shoreline.

We arrived at Barcaggio with time for a short walk before lunch. Close to the car park we saw a Common Sandpiper that flew along the stream close to a couple of mist nets (or should that be missed nets!) This indicated that the ringers were present and it was nice to be able to see Sedge and Willow Warblers in the hand. A nearby garden held a couple of Redstarts and Pied Flycatchers and further on at an area of wet meadow there was a single Wood Sandpiper and a couple of Little Egrets. Cetti's and Great Reed Warblers were heard as was Nightingale whilst in the drier parts of the field there were a few Whinchats and Wheatears. Amongst the cistus we found a few yellow Cytinus. A pair of Sardinian Warblers put on a good display and everyone had excellent views of those, while overhead there were species such as Common Buzzard, Yellow-legged Gull and a few passing Bee-eaters.

We returned to the car park for lunch, during which a few more Bee-eaters passed overhead and then we went for a walk along the beach to see what birds we could find. A few more Sardinian Warblers were noted in the scrub and there were a few Whinchats about and a couple of Northern Wheatears. In general terms birds were in short supply here although we did see Purple Heron, Grey Heron and Little Egret out near the larger pool. We began our walk back towards the car park and a Tawny Pipit put in a brief appearance but sadly not everyone saw it. We also found several spikes of Tongue Orchid, lots of flowering cistus and both red and blue forms of Scarlet pimpernel. Considerable searching of the sea produced lots of views of Yellow-legged Gulls and eventually four Cory's Shearwaters were located. Three Marsh Harriers were noted flying northwards towards the French mainland but they then returned because perhaps the winds were not favourable to their migrational journey.

As we drove towards Cap Grosso we passed a lovely drift of purple and yellow Hottentot Fig. Also a few Common Redstarts were seen in amongst the scrub and there were at least 35 Bee-eaters perched on overhead wires. It was great watching these birds for a while but suddenly they all took flight when a Red-footed Falcon came dashing by. A brief visit along the road towards Cap Grosso had us viewing Marmora's Warbler, two Marsh Harriers and a pair of Ospreys but by now time was dashing on and we needed to head back towards our hotel. Few birds were noted but in the evening after dinner a few of the group heard Scops Owls again.

Friday 30th April

The early risers had an excellent start to the day with Hoopoe in the hotel grounds and Bee-eaters flying over as we assembled. Great-spotted Woodpecker and Willow Warbler were in the woodland and as we walked along the beach southwards there were at least half a dozen Wheatears to be seen. Small groups of Barn Swallows headed northwards and an occasional Chiffchaff were noted before we reached a point where there was a group of Bee-eaters to be seen on the wires. Distant fields held at least five Stone Curlews and a couple of Hoopoes and there was a Sardinian Warbler or two in the scrub the other side of our narrow road. Spotless Starlings could be seen close to the cattle and a Nightingale was heard in the woodland just before a group of about a dozen Ruffs were seen flying towards the Etang de Biguglia. Two members of the group who took a short walk from the hotel found a lot of Greater Broomrape in a field nearby.

After breakfast the Bee-eaters on the wire the Bee-eaters on the wire were still present and the number of Stone Curlews had risen to at least 10. In the field along the track were many spikes of Yellow Bartsia. We drove northwards along the seaward side of the etang and made a stop just before a sharp bend. As we pulled in here two Hoopoes could be seen on the adjacent fence posts and we then spent some time scanning the area for various birds. At least two Marsh Harriers, four Red Kites and a male Red-footed Falcon were seen in flight while a tree along the track held a few Collared Doves and at least two Turtle Doves. Soon a group of Bee-eaters arrived and seemed to take possession of this leafless tree. Gradually their numbers swelled to perhaps 30; a fabulous site. Other birds noted here included three Whinchats, three Cattle Egrets in with the sheep, a Pied Flycatcher and lots of Hooded Crows. A short distant northwards a brief look out on to the etang produced Great White and Little Egrets, a few Mallards plus lots of Coots and Great Crested Grebes.

The short nature trail towards the north end of Biguglia was our next venue and here we spent some time observing the birds. A few Flamingos were dotted around wading in the shallow water and there were a number of Great Crested Grebes and Coots once again. Each gull was checked but they all proved to be of the Yellow-legged variety; not a single Audouin's gull was seen. As we left this spot and headed along the trail, some of the remaining group saw a Squacco Heron along the water's edge. Bee-eaters and swallows blogged their way northwards and the waterside scrub held Cetti's Warbler and Nightingale. An Osprey was seen flying about over the lake and it was obviously intent on finding a meal but then a shrill call alerted some of the group to a passing Kingfisher. Not everybody saw this at first but eventually it flew back again and those who missed it the first time managed to secure brief but good views. The woodland was unusually quiet but there was a pair of Great-spotted Woodpeckers excavating a nest site.

We then drove around to le Fort in the hope of adding a few birds and this we did. Cuckoo and Spoonbill were both seen in flight along with Common Kestrel. White Wagtail was seen beside a water channel and close to the feeding cattle Yellow Wagtails were collecting any insects they disturbed. Amongst these birds was the Grey-headed variety so eagerly sought by some of the group. Our final good bird here was a Woodchat Shrike although this bird was somewhat distant. We then returned to the eastern side of the etang and headed along a narrow track towards our lunch spot. As we drove out here a bird was glimpsed flying up from the side of the track. Thankfully it landed back in the middle of the road and it proved to be a migrating Wryneck. For those in the leading minibus the bird was seen at very close quarters and most of the people in the second minibus also saw it. However, it was not until we left the area after lunch that the rest of the group managed to obtain views.

During lunch another, or perhaps the same Osprey was seen, as were Red Kites, Kestrels and a couple of Red-footed Falcons. The only ducks on the lake were a few Mallard but we did also note Little Grebe, Whinchat and Fan-tailed Warbler. Later at La Canonica cathedral we saw Italian and Tree Sparrows and a lovely female Red-footed Falcon.

A track leading towards the western side of Biguglia was our next venue and our walk began with a few of the species we had already noted that day, namely Nightingale, Italian Sparrow and Jay. A pair of Long-tailed Tits were in the trees beside the track and then a group of 25-30 Wood Sandpipers and perhaps half a dozen Ruffs were seen in a wet area of a field. Stonechats and Whinchats were in the

drier areas and as we watched a couple of distant Wheatears, two Stone Curlews were found. As we neared the lake a few Yellow Wagtails were seen and here we also found Kestrel and a female Marsh Harrier. There were numerous Marsh Frogs in a drainage channel and these could easily be seen from a small bridge. As we walked to the other side of the bridge a male Little Bittern was flushed from the edge of the reeds but sadly dropped back in again before all of the group had seen it. Unfortunately it did not reappear. Our final good find along here was a Grass Snake that at first disappeared into the vegetation but then as we walked back it was seen swimming across this drainage channel.

Again after dinner Scops Owl was heard in the grounds of the hotel.

Saturday 1st May

Today as we were flying home, there was no pre-breakfast walk to allow time for packing. However, some of the group did venture out and managed to find a Goshawk plus a few other birds in the local woodland.

After breakfast there was enough time for a bit of birding or botanising and so we split into two groups. One group again checked alongside Biguglia hoping for Audouin's gulls at the northern end but sadly they did not put in an appearance. However, a number of other good birds were seen.

Those who went botanising headed inland a short distance along the Golo Valley and then drove up towards Campile. We stopped part way and took a stroll up the hill. Here we found many species of orchid including Dense-flowered, Barton's Green-winged, Provence, Pink Butterfly and Ploughshare Serapias. We also noted Sword-leaved Helleborine, Spring Sowbread, Mediterranean White Violet, Cornsalad, Sage-leaved and Grey-leaved Cistus. On the way back down we made a brief stop to look at Dark Ophrys. Soon it was time to head back to the hotel to collect our luggage and head for the airport. Mike & Liz had a slightly earlier flight and so bade their farewells to the group, who were staying on at the hotel for lunch before they too had to catch their flights home.

SPECIES LIST:

BIRDS

Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	Heard on 28 th and 30 th but sadly not seen.
Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>	two on 27 th plus others heard the same day in the Lagani Valley.
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Noted on 24 th presumably in Germany and also seen at various locations on 28 th , 29 th & 30 th .
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	Two late wintering birds on 28 th at the Marais de Canna
Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>	A dozen at Marais de Canna and a further 8 at the Etang de Diane on 28 th , then at least 2 seen on the Etang de Biguglia on 30 th .
Cory's Shearwater	<i>Caolonectris diomedea</i>	At least 4 seen off Cap Corse on 29 th .
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	Two seen and others heard on 28 th at Marais de Canna and also noted on 30 th on the Etang de Biguglia.
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	A few seen on the open water at the Marais de Canna on 28 th and also seen in good numbers on the Etang de Biguglia on 30 th .
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>	Half a dozen on the Etang d'Urbino on 28 th and a single bird seen on the Etang de Biguglia on 30 th .
Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	Two at the Etang d'Urbino on 28 th , then half a dozen seen on the Etang de Biguglia on 30 th .
Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	A single male seen on the western side of Biguglia on 30 th .

Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	A single bird seen by some members of the group at the northern end of Biguglia on 30 th .
Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>	Three on 28 th at Urbino and 4 at the north end of Biguglia on 30 th .
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	Noted on 5 days of the tour, with the largest quantity being seen on 30 th around the Etang de Biguglia.
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	Five seen on 28 th at Marais de Canna and a single bird seen on 29 th at Cap Corse.
Great White Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>	One at the Etang d'Urbino and another at the Etang de Diane both on 28 th and then two seen on 30 th at the Etang de Biguglia.
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	First seen at the Etang d'Urbino on 28 th and a dozen seen at the Etang de Diane later that day. Also noted on 29 th and 30 th .
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	One on 28 th at the Etang d'Urbino and a further 3 around the Etang de Biguglia on 30 th .
Common (Eurasian) Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Noted every day.
Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>	One on 24 th as the group landed at Bastia airport and then not seen again until 28 th when there were four at Marais de Canna and another 2 during the journey to our hotel. There was one at Cap Corse on 29 th and at least a dozen were noted around Biguglia on 30 th .
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	A nesting pair were seen at Cap Corse on 29 th and a single bird was hunting over Biguglia the following day.
Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	Seen every day except 24 th .
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Three seen as the group landed at Bastia airport on 24 th and there was one on 25 th close to Corte. The final sighting was of a bird seen from the vehicle during our return from the Lagani Valley on 27 th .
Lammergeier	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>	A single bird well seen in the Restonica Valley on 25 th .
Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Our first was on 27 th in the Lagani Valley, then on 28 th there was a pair at the Etang d'Urbino. On 29 th at least 5 were seen at Cap Corse with some making failed attempts to head towards the European mainland and we also saw the species around Biguglia on 30 th .
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	A single bird noted on 25 th in the Restonica Valley.
Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	One was seen by some of the clients during a pre-breakfast walk on 1 st May.
Common (Eurasian) Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Seen every day.
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	Two good sightings in the Lagani Valley on 27 th
Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	Heard on 28 th at Marais de Canna and also on 30 th on the eastern side of Biguglia.
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Seen on 24 th , 29 th and 30 th .
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	Seen on 24 th , 28 th , 29 th , and 30 th .
European Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus oediconemus</i>	At least 10 birds seen close to Biguglia on 30 th .
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	A single bird seen by one or two of the group at Barcaggio on 29 th .
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	Two on 28 th as we had lunch at Calzarellu and a further bird was seen at the Etang d'Urbino the same day.
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	Two seen at Macinaggio on 29 th .
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	About 15 seen at the Etang d'Urbino on 28 th , One at Cap Corse on 29 th and then a group of 25-30 individuals seen on the western side of Biguglia on 30 th .

Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	One on 29 th at Cap Corse and another on 30 th at Biguglia.
Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	A single bird seen in amongst Wood Sandpipers on 28 th at Urbino, then a group of about a dozen were seen flying northwards towards Biguglia during the pre-breakfast walk on 30 th . Later that day five birds were seen around Biguglia and may refer the above birds.
Audouin's Gull	<i>Larus audouinii</i>	Half a dozen seen during the journey to or from Cap Corse on 29 th .
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	Noted on three consecutive days from 28 th .
Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	A few seen along the Rhine by those that went into Cologne on 24 th .
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Two on 28 th at the Marais de Canna.
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	A single bird was well seen flying over the pond at the Marais de Canna on 28 th .
Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon)	<i>Columba livia</i>	Seen every day except 25 th .
(Common) Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	Seen every day.
European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	Seen or heard every day from 26 th .
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decacotta</i>	Seen every day.
Common (Eurasian) Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Seen or heard every day from 25 th .
Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	Heard during our returns from our restaurant on 25 th & 26 th and also heard at the hotel on 29 th & 30 th . However, on 28 th we had good but brief views of two individuals flying around by the La Lagune hotel.
Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>	At least four seen on 25 th during the pre-breakfast walk.
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	Seen every day.
Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>	Just noted on 24 th at Bastia airport.
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	A single bird seen twice flying along the etang de Biguglia on 30 th was a first record for Travelling Naturalist/Limosa tour to Corsica.
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	Our first were a few seen during the pre-breakfast walk on 29 th , then later that day we saw a good number at Cap Corse. On 30 th good numbers were seen around various parts of Biguglia, including a large gathering in a dead tree where Collared and Turtle Doves were also assembled.
(Eurasian) Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	At least one seen on 26 th in the Asco Valley and then there were at least five the following day in the Lagani Valley. On 29 th & 30 th this species was seen in the grounds of the Lagune hotel.
(Eurasian) Wryneck	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	Two seen on 27 th in the Lagani Valley and one seen at very close quarters on the eastern side of Biguglia on 30 th .
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	Seen every day except 24 th .
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	Two males seen in the Lagani Valley on 27 th
Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>	Two in the Asco Valley on 26 th and this species was also noted on the following 4 days.
(Eurasian) Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	One noted close to the hotel in the Restonica Valley on 25 th and then seen on four consecutive days from 27 th including three in one tree on 28 th at Ghisonaccia.
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	Seen every day from 25 th .
Black-billed (Common) Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	Just seen on 24 th close to Cologne.
Alpine (Yellow-billed) Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>	Seen on 25 th & 26 th on high ground in the Restonica and Asco Valleys respectively.
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	Seen on 24 th in Germany.
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>	Noted every day.
Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	Seen every day from 25 th – 30 th .

Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	Noted on four consecutive days from 25 th and also on 30 th .
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	Seen every day from 25 th .
Blue Tit	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>	Seen every day from 25 th .
European Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Two or three seen at Cap Corse on 29 th .
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	First noted at Bastia airport on 24 th and then seen every day from 26 th with some degree of northbound migration.
Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Hirundo rupestris</i>	Small numbers noted on four consecutive days from 25 th .
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	Seen every day.
Long-tailed (Bush) Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	Noted in the Restonica, Asco and Lagani Valleys on three days from 25 th and then seen on 30 th close to Biguglia.
Wood Lark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>	Our first were in the Asco Valley on 26 th and then seen on the next two days.
Zitting Cisticola (Fan-tld warb)	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	First seen at the Etang d'Urbino on 28 th and also noted beside Biguglia on 30 th .
Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	One seen on 27 th in the Lagani Valley and then seen or heard on the next 3 days.
Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	Heard on 28 th at the Marais de Canna and on 29 th at Cap Corse.
Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	One seen in the hand at the ringing station at Barcaggio on 29 th .
(Eurasian) Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	Heard on 28 th at the Marais de Canna and beside Biguglia on 30 th .
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	One on 26 th in the lower reaches of the Asco Valley and then noted on 29 th & 30 th .
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	One seen during our journey towards the coast on 28 th . At least one the following day at Cap Corse and also noted beside Biguglia on 30 th .
Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	Just a single bird seen close to Corte on 25 th .
Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	Noted every day from 25 th .
Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>	A single bird was seen in the Lagani Valley on 27 th .
Mamora's Warbler	<i>Sylvia sarda</i>	One seen in the Restonica Valley on 25 th , another in the Asco Valley on 26 th . Heard close to the Etang de Diane on 28 th and seen at Cap Corse on 29 th .
Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans</i>	Two seen in the Asco Valley on 26 th including good sightings during our coffee break.
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>	First seen on 27 th in the Lagani Valley, heard on 28 th & 30 th and seen at Cap Corse on 29 th .
Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>	At least three in the Restonica Valley on 25 th two in the Asco Valley on 26 th , then noted on the pre-breakfast walks on 27 th & 30 th .
(Winter) Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Seen or heard every day from 25 th .
Corsican Nuthatch	<i>Sitta whiteheadi</i>	One seen at the end of the pre-breakfast walk on 25 th by some of the group and then two well seen on 26 th high in the Asco Valley.
Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>	Three on 25 th in the Restonica Valley, one the following day in the Asco Valley and two before breakfast on 27 th .
Common (European) Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Just noted on 24 th in Germany.
Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>	Seen every day from 25 th .
Common (Eurasian) Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	Noted every day.
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	Heard on 26 th in the Asco Valley and on 28 th not far from Corte.
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	Singles noted on 25 th & 26 th in the Restonica and Asco Valleys respectively and also seen on 28 th .
Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	Heard on 26 th in the Asco Valley, then at least two seen with more heard in the Lagani Valley

Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	on 27 th . Also heard or seen on the following three days.
Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	Birds on migration seen on 29 th at Cap Corse and 30 th close to the Etang de Biguglia.
Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	Half a dozen seen in the Asco Valley on 26 th and also noted the following day in the Lagani Valley. Also seen on 29 th & 30 th .
Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	Noted on five days of the tour.
(Rufous-tailed) Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxitilis</i>	Seen every day from 25 th .
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	One seen high in the Restonica Valley on 25 th . First seen in the Restonica Valley on 25 th , then noted on a further three days.
European Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	Small numbers seen on four consecutive days from 27 th .
(White-throated) Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	A single seen in the Restonica Valley on 25 th presumably the same bird was seen late on on 26 th and then on 27 th & 28 th a pair was seen a little further up the same valley.
House (Italian) Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	House Sparrows were noted in Cologne on 24 th and the Italian variety was seen every day from 25 th .
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	A few seen at the Roman Cathedral to the south of Biguglia on 30 th .
Rock Sparrow (Petronia)	<i>Petronia petronia</i>	Four on 27 th in the Lagani Valley.
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	This species was noted on 29 th & 30 th at Cap Corse and Biguglia respectively. Amongst those at Biguglia there were a number of different sub species/races of this particular species.
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Noted on five consecutive days from 25 th .
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba alba</i>	Singles noted on 28 th and 30 th
Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>	One on 26 th in the Asco Valley was just seen by a few people in the group, then on 27 th there were at least three in the Lagani Valley and on 29 th there was one close to Barcaggio.
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	Our first two were in the woodland close to the hotel before breakfast on 29 th and there was another at Cap Corse later that day. Perhaps the same two were seen early the following day, with another beside Biguglia on 30 th .
Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>	Two seen high in the Asco Valley on 25 th .
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Noted every day from 25 th .
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>	Small numbers seen every day from 26 th .
European Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	Noted every day from 25 th .
(Eurasian) Siskin	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>	A single bird seen with other finches on 29 th close to the hotel.
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Seen every day from 25 th .
Corsican Citril Finch	<i>Serinus corsicanus</i>	Small numbers seen on three consecutive days from 25 th . A surprisingly low quantity of sightings for this species this year.
Common Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	Two seen on our way to the coast on 28 th .
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	Three seen close to Corte on 25 th then seen the following day in the Asco Valley and three consecutive days from 28 th .
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirius</i>	Seen every day from 24 th .
MAMMALS		
Mouflon	<i>Ovis orientalis</i>	Two males well seen in the Asco Valley on 27 th .
AMPHIBIANS		
Marsh Frog	<i>Rana ridibunda</i>	

REPTILES

Tyrrhenian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis tiliguerta</i>
Western Whip Snake	<i>Coluber viridiflavus</i>
Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>

BUTTERFLIES

Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>
Corsican Swallowtail	<i>Papilio hospiton</i>
Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>
Large White	<i>Piers brassicae</i>
Small White	<i>Artogeia rapae</i>
Green-veined White	<i>Artogeia napi</i>
Orange-tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias croceus</i>
Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>
Green Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys rubi</i>
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>
Geranium Bronze	<i>Cacyreus marshalli</i>
Holly Blue	<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>
Green-underside Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche alexis</i>
Brown Argus	<i>Aricia agestis</i>
Peacock	<i>Inachis io</i>
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>
Painted Lady	<i>Cynthia cardui</i>
Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilius</i>
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>

MOTHS

Pine Processionary	<i>Thaumetopoea pityocampa</i>
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DRAGONFLIES

Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>
Scarce Chaser	<i>Libellula fulva</i>
Lesser Emperor	<i>Anax parthenope</i>
Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>
Scarlet Darter	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>

OTHER INSECTS

Egyptian Grasshopper	<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i>
Red-winged Grasshopper	<i>Arphia pseudonietana</i>
Blue-winged Grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda caerulescens</i>
Violet Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>
Dung Beetle	<i>Scarabaeus semipunctatus</i>
7-spot Ladybird	<i>Coccinella 7-punctata</i>
2-spot Ladybird	<i>Adalia bipunctata (6 spot variety)</i>
Soldier Beetle	<i>Lygaeus equestris</i>
Pepper Beetle	

FLOWERS

The reference numbers for each species refers to the Collins Mediterranean Wild Flowers by Blamey and Grey-Wilson

3	<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Stone Pine, Umbrella Pine
5	<i>Pinus pinaster</i>	Maritime Pine
11	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>	Italian Cypress
13	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Juniper
15	<i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i>	Prickly Juniper
23	<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut

25	<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holm Oak
27	<i>Quercus suber</i>	Cork Oak
31	<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy Oak
32	<i>Cytinus hipocistis</i>	
42	<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig
46	<i>Urtica atrovirens</i>	
47	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging Nettle
48	<i>Urtica pilulifera</i>	Roman Nettle
49	<i>Urtica membranacea</i>	Membranous Nettle
50	<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory of the Wall
56	<i>Humulus lupulus</i>	Hop
70	<i>Polygonum maritimum</i>	Sea Knotgrass
85	<i>Salicornia europaea</i>	Sea Samphire
115	<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Hottentot Fig
136	<i>Paronychia argentea</i>	
	<i>Spergularia spp</i>	
176	<i>Silene galica</i>	Small-flowered Catchfly
180	<i>Silene colorata</i>	Mediterranean Catchfly
187	<i>Kohlruschia velutina</i>	
213	<i>Anemone hortensis</i>	
235	<i>Ranunculus velutinus</i>	
243	<i>Ranunculus muricatus</i>	
246	<i>Ranunculus parviflorus</i>	Small-flowered Buttercup
251	<i>Ranunculus sceleratus</i>	Celery-leaved Crowfoot
252	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	Lesser Celandine
283	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common Poppy
287	<i>Papaver argemone</i>	Prickly Poppy
304	<i>Fumaria bicolor</i>	
306	<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	Common Fumitory
310	<i>Isatis tinctoria</i>	Woad
320	<i>Maresia nana</i>	Maresia
322	<i>Arabis verna</i>	Spring Rockcress
326	<i>Mathiola sinuata</i>	Sea Stock
341	<i>Biscutella didyma</i>	Biscutella
360	<i>Sinapis alba</i>	White Mustard
361	<i>Eruca sativa</i>	Eruca
363	<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sea Rocket
369	<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	Wild Radish
386	<i>Sedum album</i>	White Stonecrop
396	<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Navelwort (Wall Pennywort)
400	<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	Plane Tree
402	<i>Pittosporum tobria</i>	.
424	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn
428	<i>Rubus sanctus</i>	Bramble
430	<i>Cercis silquastrum</i>	Judas Tree
432	<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	Silver Wattle/Mimosa
439	<i>Acacia cyanophylla</i>	Blue-leaved Wattle
463	<i>Genista scorpius</i>	
468	<i>Genista cinerea</i>	.
481	<i>Sparticum junceum</i>	Spanish Broom
486	<i>Lupinus angustifolius</i>	Narrow-leaved Lupin
488	<i>Robinia pseudacacia</i>	False Acacia
519	<i>Vicia hirsuta</i>	Hairy Tare
521	<i>Vicia laxiflora</i>	Slender Tare
523	<i>Vicia tetrasperma</i>	Smooth Tare
526	<i>Vicia pannonica</i>	
531	<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common Vetch
537	<i>Lathyrus latifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Everlasting Pea
540	<i>Lathyrus saxitalis</i>	
541	<i>Lathyrus sphaericus</i>	(Pea Family)
547	<i>Lathyrus hirsutus</i>	Hairy Vetchling
551	<i>Lathyrus articulatus</i>	
553	<i>Lathyrus aphaca</i>	Yellow Vetchling

555	<i>Pisum sativum</i>	Wild Pea
572	<i>Melilotus indicus</i>	Small Meliot
605	<i>Medicago marina</i>	Sea Medick
618	<i>Medicago polymorpha</i>	Toothed Medick
623	<i>Medicago arabica</i>	Spotted Medick
625	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common Bird's-foot Trefoil
642	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover
645	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover
658	<i>Trifolium tomentosum</i>	Woolly Trefoil
662	<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>	Star Clover
676	<i>Dorycnium hirsutum</i>	Dorycnium
684	<i>Scorpiurus muricatus</i>	Scorpiurus
735	<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda Buttercup
741	<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill
743	<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved Geranium
745	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill
747	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert
761	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Stork'sbill
777	<i>Linum bienne</i>	Pale Flax
794	<i>Euphorbia acanthothamnus</i>	
799	<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	Sun Spurge
819	<i>Euphorbia wulfenii</i>	
842	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of Heaven
843	<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Indian Bead Tree/Persian Lilac
849	<i>Polygala nicaensis</i>	Nice Milkwort
856	<i>Acer monspessulanum</i>	Montpelier Maple
865	<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Lentisc
885	<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	Mediterranean Buckthorn
898	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow
899	<i>Malva neglecta</i>	Dwarf Mallow
925	<i>Viola alba subsp. Dehnadtii</i>	Mediterranean White Violet
931	<i>Viola kitaibeliana</i>	Dwarf Pansy
961	<i>Cistus albidus</i>	Grey-leaved Cistus
965	<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>	Sage-leaved Cistus
966	<i>Cistus monspeliensis</i>	Narrow-leaved Cistus
985	<i>Tuberaria guttata</i>	Annual Rockrose
1019	<i>Tamarix parviflora</i>	
1024	<i>Tamarix tetragyna</i>	Tamarisk
1040	<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i>	Prickly Pear
1052	<i>Myrtis communis</i>	Common Myrtle
1060	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	Southern Blue Gum
1062	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	River Red Gum
1073	<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Sea Holly
1087	<i>Smyrniolum olusatrum</i>	Alexanders
1097	<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's Needle
1132	<i>Apium nodiflorum</i>	Fool's Water-cress
1141	<i>Ferula communis</i>	Giant Fennel
1168	<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot
1176	<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry Tree
1178	<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree Heath
1198	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel
	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel (blue form)
1199	<i>Anagallis foemina</i>	Blue Pimpernel
1207	<i>Cyclamen repandum</i>	Spring Sowbread
1245	<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	Flowering Ash (Manna)
1246	<i>Phillyrea angustifolia</i>	
1248	<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive
1268	<i>Cynanchum acutum</i>	Stranglewort
1300	<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Crosswort
1294	<i>Galium mollugo</i>	Hedge Bedstraw
1305	<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Common Madder
1329	<i>Convolvulus cantabrica</i>	Pink Convolvulus
1334	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Bindweed

1383	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Viper's Bugloss
1395	<i>Borago officinalis</i>	Borage
1475	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	Red Deadnettle
1502	<i>Melissa officinalis</i>	Balm
1518	<i>Origanum onites</i>	Pot Marjoram
1526	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Rosemary
1528	<i>Lavendula stoechas</i>	French Lavender
1545	<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	Wild Clary
1575	<i>Datura stramonium</i>	Thornapple
1611	<i>Misopates orontium</i>	Lesser Snapdragon
1646	<i>Veronica cymbalaria</i>	Cymbalaria-leaved Speedwell
1651	<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	Yellow Bartsia
1652	<i>Parentucellia latifolia</i>	
1670	<i>Orobanche rapum genistae</i>	Greater Broomrape
1675	<i>Orobanche crenata</i>	
1676	<i>Myoporum laetum</i>	Ngaio
1693	<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain
1701	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain
1710	<i>Sambucus ebulus</i>	Dwarf Elder, Danewort
1712	<i>Lonicera etrusca</i>	Etruscan Honeysuckle
1791	<i>Bellis annua</i>	Annual Daisy
1805	<i>Evax pygmaea</i>	
1855	<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>	Lavender Cotton
1857	<i>Anthemis maritimus</i>	
1858	<i>Anthemis arvensis</i>	Corn Chamomile
1869	<i>Anthemis chia</i>	
1887	<i>Matricaria recutita</i>	Scented Mayweed
1908	<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Field Marigold
1911	<i>Senecio cineraria</i>	Cineraria
1916	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel
1971	<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Galactites
1982	<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle
2006	<i>Centaura pullata</i>	
2032	<i>Hyoseris radiata</i>	
2039	<i>Urospermum dalechampii</i>	Urospermum
2087	<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	Common Asphodel
2089	<i>Asphodelus aestivus</i>	Hollow-leaved Asphodel
2201	<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel Hyacinth
2212	<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	Sharp-leaved Asparagus
2218	<i>Asparagus officinalis</i>	Common Asparagus
2222	<i>Smilax aspera</i>	Common Smilax
2224	<i>Allium roseum</i>	Rosy Garlic
2227	<i>Allium subhirsutum</i>	
2229	<i>Allium triquetrum</i>	Three-cornered Leek
2290	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Flag
2307	<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Field Gladiolus
2359	<i>Helicodiceros muscivorus</i>	Dragon's Mouth
2362	<i>Arum italicum</i>	Italian Lords and Ladies
2377	<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	Friar's Cowl
2460	<i>Briza maxima</i>	Large Quaking Grass
2473	<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	Hare's-tail
2494	<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed
2504	<i>Juncus acutus</i>	Sharp Rush
2506	<i>Juncus articulatus</i>	Jointed Rush
2522	<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair Fern
2532	<i>Ceterach officinorum</i>	Rusty Back Fern

The numbers for the Orchid species refers to the Field Guide to Orchids of Britain and Europe by Karl Peter Buttler

34	<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	Sword-leaved Helleborine
38	<i>Limodorum arbortivum</i>	Violet Limodore
72	<i>Dactylorhiza insularis</i>	Barton's Orchid

106	<i>Neotinea maculata</i>
106	<i>Aceras anthropophorum</i>
112	<i>Orchis laxiflora</i>
114	<i>Orchis olbiensis</i>
120	<i>Orchis provincialis</i>
130	<i>Orchis papilionacea</i>
136	<i>Orchis Morio</i>
144	<i>Orchis purpurea</i>
160	<i>Serapias olbia</i>
162	<i>Serapias vomeracea</i>
166	<i>Serapias lingua</i>
218	<i>Ophrys incubacea</i>
E	<i>Berberis aetnensis</i>
E	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i> var. <i>gyspergera</i>
E	<i>Alnus cordata</i>
E	<i>Alnus alnobetula</i> subsp. <i>suaveolens</i>
E	<i>Crocus corsicus</i>
E	<i>Pinus nigra</i> subsp. <i>Laricio</i>
E	<i>Genista corsica</i>
E	<i>Helleborus lividus</i> subsp. <i>Corsicus</i>
E	<i>Euphorbia pithyusa</i> ssp. <i>cupanii</i>
E	<i>Pancratium illyricum</i>
E	<i>Rubia peregrina</i> ssp. <i>requinenii</i>
E	<i>Sedum brevifolium</i>
E	<i>Santolina Corsica</i>
E	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i> subsp. <i>Praemorsa</i>
E	<i>Stachys glutinosa</i>
E	<i>Barbarea rupicola</i>

Also noted:

Alnus glutinosa
Populus canescens
Betula pendula
Aesculus hippocastanum
Viscum austriacum
Viola riviniana
Stellaria graminea
Veronica persica
Fragaria vesca
Juglans regia
Lunaria annua
Populus nigra
Alliaria petiolata
Crataegus monogyna
Galium aparine
Galium mollugo
Fraxinus excelsior
Pocedonia oceanea
Cotula coronopifolia
Pteridium aquilinum
Lychnis flos-cuculi
Rumex acetosella
Draba verna
Sherardia arvensis
Potentilla reptans
Myosotis ramosissima
Carlina acaulis
Geranium robertianum
Silene latifolia
Cruciata laevipes
Trifolium subterraneum
Erodium moschatum
Jasione Montana

Dense-flowered Orchid
Man Orchid
Loose-flowered Orchid
Southern Early Purple Orchid
Provence Orchid
Pink Butterfly Orchid
Green-winged Orchid
Lady Orchid
Hybrid Serapias
Plough-Share Serapias
Tongue Orchid
Dark Ophrys

Foxglove
Green Alder

Corsican Pine

Illyrian Sea Lily
Wild Madder

Mountain Ash
Sticky Woundwort

Common Alder
Grey Poplar
Silver Birch
Horse Chestnut
Mistletoe (parasitic on pines & larch)
Common Dog-violet
Lesser Stitchwort
Common Field Speedwell
Wild Strawberry
Walnut
Honesty
Black Poplar
Garlic Mustard
Hawthorn
Cleavers
Hedge Bedstraw
Common Ash

Buttonweed
Bracken
Ragged Robin
Sheep's Sorrel
Spring Whitlow-grass
Field Madder
Creeping Cinquefoil
Early Forget-me-not
Stemless Carlina Thistle
Herb Robert
White Campion
Crosswort
Burrowing Clover
Musk Storksbill
Sheepsbit Scabious

Valerianella locusta
Ranunculus aquatilis

Cornsalad
Common Water Crowfoot

Iceland's erupting volcano and its associated ash cloud caused considerable problems for our flights on what should have been a first Corsica trip this year. Fortunately some of the clients from Corsica 1 were able to transfer to this trip (Corsica 2) hence three leaders and a slightly larger number of clients than we would normally take. Thankfully the broad range of client and leader interests seemed to mesh together well. Birders mostly stuck with the birding leaders whilst the botanists and Liz were mostly looking at things that didn't fly away! Consequently we ended up with a good variety of species recorded with 254 different plants overall which included 15 orchids and one new endemic plant found in the Restonica Valley.

On the birding front, migration seemed to be a little quieter than normal but three new species for Travelling Naturalist and Limosa were still recorded among the 126 species we saw. The new ones were Common Pheasant, Gadwall and Kingfisher. Of course for many people, seeing the endemic species was important. Corsican Citril Finches were seen on three days and even though we struggled for Corsican Nuthatch during the first two days, we ended up with superb and prolonged views on day three. Where our flights were earlier than most other peoples on the tour, we departed for the airport without getting a full list of the bird species seen by those who went birding on 1st May. Consequently these birds have not been included in the species listings.

All in all Corsica once again provided a super location for a holiday. Great food, excellent wine, super wildlife and a wonderful bunch of clients. What more could leaders ask for?!

Mike & Liz Read