

# Crete in Autumn

Naturetrek Tour Report

22 - 29 October 2013



*Cyclamen hederifolium*



Olive Grove



*Pancratium maritimum*



*Stembergia sicula*

Report & images compiled by David Tattersfield



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## Day 1

Tuesday 22nd October

The group arrived in Hania on direct flights from Gatwick and Manchester, an hour or so apart. We were met by our driver for the short journey to our hotel and had the remaining part of the afternoon to settle in and explore. We reassembled in the early evening before going out for a delicious selection of traditional Cretan food in a nearby Taverna.

## Day 2

Wednesday 23rd October

We left Hania travelling westwards and after shopping for lunch we made our first stop along the coast at a sandy bay, backed by a small area of dunes. A typical coastal flora included Cottonweed *Otanthus maritimus*, Sea Holly *Eryngium maritimum*, the striking spiny grey hummocks of *Centaurea spinosa* and Sea Daffodil *Pancreatium maritimum*, mostly in fruit, but a few still displaying their spectacular sweetly-scented flowers. South of Kolimbari, on the rocky hillsides above the pretty village of Marathocephala, there were flowers of *Cyclamen graecum* subsp. *graecum*, which is restricted to the north-west of the island and the tall flower spikes of Sea Squill, *Charybdis maritima*. After a pleasant walk down to Spilia, we drove to Falasarna on the west coast.

While lunch was being prepared there was an opportunity for a dip in the sea and some exploration of the adjacent coast and scrub, where butterflies included Long-tailed Blue, Mallow Skipper and Cleopatra. Afterwards we walked along the track to Ancient Falasarna past polythene tunnels where tomatoes were being grown. Unfortunately, the ruins of the Hellenistic town and harbour had been fenced off and the site was closed. We returned along a section of raised beach with a fascinating geology and a fossil cliff that bore testimony to the tectonic forces that had uplifted western Crete by nine meters in 365 A.D. and left the harbour high and dry.

Caterpillars of Spurge Hawk Moth, *Hyles euphorbiae* were seen on Sea Spurge, *Euphorbia paralias* and of special botanical interest was the silver-leaved near-endemic *Inula candida*, growing on the cliffs. After returning to Hania, we walked round the coast and through the harbour of this enchanting city, before dining in one of its many restaurants.

## Day 3

Thursday 24th October

We drove south through the rugged landscape of the White Mountains. Here, as in other areas of Crete, a combination of faulting in the limestone rocks and millions of years of karstic weathering has created flat fertile depressions of red iron-rich soils, technically known as poljes, within the otherwise rugged terrain. The Askifou Plateau is one of the largest of these on Crete and now funnels its drainage underground. Originally, rivers would have drained south, carving the Imbros and adjacent gorges before being captured by a lowering of the land surface. Before setting off down the gorge, we enjoyed a local speciality of pancakes with cheese and honey at the café.

We followed the bed of the gorge, as it dramatically deepened beneath towering cliffs, with Cretan Grayling flitting along beside us. We located one or two *Crocus laevigatus* and the endemic *Cyclamen graecum* subsp. *candicum*, wedged into tight crevices in the boulders. On the cliffs were many of Crete's endemic chasmophytes, including Dittany, *Origanum dictamnus*, Cretan Sainfoin, *Ebenus cretica*, the striking shrubby composite, *Staehelina petiolata* and the shrubby Bedstraw, *Galium fruticosum*. With some patient searching we found a few yellow *Sternbergia sicula*, flowering from crevices in the limestone and the endemic onion, *Allium callimischon* subsp. *haemostictum* with delicate red-spotted flowers. After the narrowest sections of the gorge, we eventually emerged on a broad apron of cobbles that led down to the road. We enjoyed a late lunch at the Taverna, arriving back in Hania at 6.00 pm and then going out for meal by the harbour.

## Day 4

Friday 25th October

Today we headed south to the Omalos Plateau in the White Mountains stopping first at Agia Lake, where natural freshwater springs have been dammed to create one of the finest wetland sites in Crete. Among the usual Coot and Moorhen were small numbers of Ferruginous Duck, Northern Shoveler, Eurasian Teal and Eurasian Widgeon. Little Grebe dabbled around the margins and Kingfisher perched in the reeds. To reach Omalos we had to make a long diversion as the direct road was closed. We stopped to view the Agia Irini Gorge before entering the Omalos Plateau from the west. A coffee stop provided an opportunity to see a family of captive Kri-kri, the ancestral goat, brought as domesticated stock from Asia in the Neolithic period. On the small fields on the plateau were patches of the endemic *Colchicum cretense* growing together with *Crocus laevigatus*.

We had our lunch at the southern edge of the plateau in mixed woodland of Cretan Maple, *Acer sempervirens*, Kermes Oak, *Quercus coccifera* and the rare Elm relative, *Zelkova abelicea*, where many of the trees were grazed into bizarre shapes by the local goat population. At the end of the road we admired the views over the Samaria Gorge and walked a little way up the steep E4 footpath among the ancient Cypress *Cupressus sempervirens* forma *horizontalis* before retreating to the cafe. We completed the circuit of the plateau and returned the way we had come, calling again at Agia Lake. The light direction was better for seeing the birds and we had good views of Grey Heron, Little and Great Egret and Western Marsh Harrier hunting over the reeds.

## Day 5

Saturday 26th October

Our travel plans were again thwarted by a road closure and we had to make a long but scenic detour to reach the southern end of the Topolia Gorge. We climbed up to the impressive cave of Agia Sophia finding the tetraploid *Cyclamen confusum* growing on the cliffs and under old Olive trees. A short distance up the valley, more *Cyclamen* were growing in profusion in a shady gully. These were *Cyclamen hederifolium* subsp. *hederifolium*, the typical species and no doubt descended from the same ancestors that gave rise to *Cyclamen confusum*.

Continuing south, we passed through woodlands of Oriental Plane, *Platanus orientalis*, and Chestnut, *Castanea sativa*, and extensive areas of colourful maquis, with Strawberry Tree, *Arbutus unedo* and purple *Erica manipuliflora*. On reaching the coast we lunched in the shade of Calabrian Pine, *Pinus halepensis* subsp. *brutia* in an area of spiny phrygana, where the dominant plants were the aromatic *Cordithymus capitatus* and the endemic *Verbascum spinosum*. The rocky beach had some fascinating geology and an exciting find of the strange endemic aroid *Biarum davisii* with curious hooded flowers.

At Elaphonisi, the sandbar that sometimes links mainland Crete to the island had been breached but a few of us waded across. As well as the pink sand and the numerous tiny shells along the beach there were pristine areas of sand dune with many *Pancreatium maritimum* enjoying the protection afforded by the site's recent designation under Natura 2000. The rest of the group explored the mainland beach area, where there were many trees of the large-fruited *Juniperus oxycedrus* subsp. *macrocarpa* and a number of wading birds such as Ruddy Turnstone and Common Sandpiper.

## Day 6

Sunday 27th October

Another warm and sunny day dawned and we drove out to the rocky headland of the Akrotiri Peninsula. First we visited the Monastery of Agia Triada, with its richly decorated church and newly opened museum. Large specimens of Poinsettia and the Mexican native, Frangipani, were greatly admired in the garden as were the many cats. We drove on, through a narrow gorge, to the Gouverneto Monastery and walked down the path to the Cave of St John. A few of us continued down to where we could see the ruins of the Katholikou Monastery, in the bottom of the gorge. Despite the very dry conditions we did manage to find a clump of tiny *Colchicum pusillum*.

After a hot climb back to the bus, we took a different route around the coast of the peninsula to find a supermarket, where we were able to stock up with provisions for the following day. We continued through Souda to the hilltop archaeological site of Aptera and visited the impressive Roman sites and the Turkish fort, overlooking Souda Bay. After a relaxing drink in Megala Horifa, we headed back to Hania, stopping briefly at the Allied War Cemetery at the head of the Souda Bay.

## Day 7

Monday 28th October

Just before Kastelli, we turned south to the lovely village of Topolia. Below a chapel, numerous plants of *Cyclamen confusum* decorated the hillside, along with a number of sweetly-scented *Narcissus serotinus* and pink *Colchicum pusillum*.

We followed a minor road into the hills to the start of our walk at Sirikari. A steep descent, through olive groves and abandoned terraces led us into the shelter of a wild gorge, with more *Cyclamen confusum* and a dry river bed lined with Oleander, *Nerium oleander* and Oriental Plane, *Platanus orientalis*. Griffon Vultures could be seen perched on the high cliffs and circling above us. Just a few *Sternbergia sicula* were flowering in crevices in the hard limestone there were more lovely patches of the tiny pink *Colchicum pusillum* on and near the picturesque arched bridge. Our goal was now in sight and a steep final ascent brought us to Polyrinia.

As today was a holiday to celebrate the day the Greeks said no to the Italians, the Taverna was closed, as expected, and we had to make do with our usual picnic. However by the time we had finished the owner had returned and we enjoyed relaxing over drinks. The rest of our time was spent exploring the interesting village and its hilltop archaeological sites, before our journey back to Hania.

## Day 8

Tuesday 29th October

After a week of perfect weather, we enjoyed a leisurely morning in Hania, visiting the market and exploring the rich mixture of architecture and archaeology in the streets surrounding the harbour. We met back at the hotel for last minute packing and departed for the airport around midday. Three of us remained for another night in Hania before flying to Athens for our next trip to the Peloponnese...

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## Species List

Plants (The term 'endemic' applies to taxa restricted to Crete)

### PTERIDOPHYTA

### FERNS AND FERN ALLIES

#### Selaginellaceae

*Selaginella denticulata*

#### Lesser Clubmoss Family

Mediterranean Selaginella Shaded damp rocks

#### Equisetaceae

*Equisetum ramosissimum*

*Equisetum telmateia*

#### Horsetail Family

Branched Horsetail Agia Lake

Giant Horsetail Agia Lake

#### Adiantaceae

*Adiantum capillus-veneris*

#### Maidenhair Fern Family

Maidenhair Fern Imbros, Agia Sophia cave  
Falasarna

#### Aspleniaceae

*Ceterach officinarum*

#### Spleenwort family

Rusty-back Fern Frequent on rocks

#### Dennstaedtiaceae

*Pteridium aquilinum*

#### Bracken Family

Bracken Common

#### Gymnogrammaceae

*Anogramma leptophylla*

Jersey Fern Damp soil

#### Polypodiaceae

*Polypodium cambricum*

subsp. *australe*

#### Polypody Family

Southern Polypody Occasional on rocks and  
trees

#### Sinopteridaceae

*Cheilanthes acrosticha*

Occasional. Rock crevices

### GYMNOSPERMAE

### CONIFERS

#### Ephedraceae

*Ephedra foeminea*

#### Joint Pine Family

Imbros Gorge

#### Araucariaceae

*Araucaria heterophylla*

#### Monkey Puzzle Family

Norfolk Island Pine Planted

#### Cupressaceae

*Cupressus sempervirens*

forma *sempervirens*

*Cupressus sempervirens*

forma *horizontalis*

*Juniperus oxycedrus* subsp.

*oxycedrus*

*Juniperus oxycedrus* subsp.

*macrocarpa*

*Juniperus phoenicea*

#### Juniper Family

Funeral Cypress Widely planted

Cypress Imbros, Omalos and  
Samaria Gorge. Native  
Mountains

Prickly Juniper

Sea Juniper Coastal. Elaphonisi

Phoenician Juniper Lowland scrub

**Pinaceae***Pinus halepensis* subsp.  
*brutia**Pinus halepensis* subsp.  
*halepensis**Pinus pinea***Pine Family**

Calabrian Pine

Aleppo Pine

Umbrella pine

Stunted coastal forest,  
Elaphonisi

Occasional. Planted

Occasional. Planted

**ANGIOSPERMAE****FLOWERING PLANTS****DICOTYLEDONS****Acanthaceae***Acanthus spinosus***Acanthus Family**

Spiny Bear's Breeches

Rocky places. Occasional

**Aceraceae***Acer sempervirens***Maple Family**

Cretan Maple

Gorges and mountains.  
Often heavily grazed**Aizoaceae***Carprobrotus edulis***Dew Plant Family**

Hottentot Fig

Coast. Alien

**Anacardiaceae***Pistacia lentiscus**Pistacia terebinthus***Sumach Family**

Mastic Tree

Turpentine Tree

Often dominant in maquis  
Imbros Gorge**Apiaceae***Crithmum maritimum**Daucus carota**Eryngium campestre**Eryngium maritimum**Ferula communis**Foeniculum vulgare* subsp.  
*piperatum**Smyrniium perfoliatum***Carrot Family**

Rock Samphire

Wild carrot

Field Eryngo

Sea Holly

Giant Fennel

Fennel

Perfoliate Alexanders

Coastal rocks and sand  
Waste ground. Common  
Rocky places  
Coastal dunes  
Aptera  
Waste ground. Common

Agia Sophia

**Apocyanaceae***Nerium oleander**Plumeria rubra***Periwinkle Family**

Oleander

Frangipani

Widely planted and native  
along watercourses  
Cultivated. Agia Triada**Araliaceae***Hedera helix***Ivy Family**

Ivy

Gorges

**Asteraceae***Artemisia arborescens**Atractylis gummifera**Bellis sylvestris**Carlina graeca**Carlina gummifera**Centaurea argentea*subsp. *macrothysana**Centaurea calcitrapa***Daisy Family**

A stemless thistle

Southern Daisy

*(C. corymbosa)*Aptera  
Falasarna and Sirikari  
Frequent  
Abundant in garrigue  
Falasarna  
Cliffs. Imbros Gorge  
Endemic  
Omalos

<i>Centaurea idaea</i>	A yellow thistle	Imbros Gorge
<i>Centaurea raphanina</i> subsp. <i>raphanina</i>		Widespread.
<i>Centaurea spinosa</i>		North coast.
<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	Gumsuccory	North coast
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Chicory	Waste places
<i>Cichorium spinosum</i>	Spiny Chicory	Common.
<i>Cynara cornigera</i>	A wild artichoke	Occasional. Rocky places
<i>Dittrichia graveolens</i>		Occasional. Waste places
<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	Stink Aster	Abundant on roadsides
<i>Echinops spinosissimus</i>	A Globe Thistle	Lowlands
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Galactites	Abundant
<i>Helichrysum conglobatum</i>	( <i>H. stoechas</i> )	Frequent
<i>Helichrysum microphyllum</i>	A Curry Plant	Omalos
<i>Helichrysum orientale</i>		Cliffs. Katholikou
<i>Inula candida</i>		Cliffs. Falasarna
<i>Inula crithmoides</i>	Golden Samphire	Elaphonisi
<i>Notobasis syriaca</i>	Syrian Thistle	Frequent
<i>Onopordon bracteatum</i> subsp. <i>creticum</i>		North coast. Endemic
<i>Otanthus maritimus</i>	Cottonweed	Sand dunes
<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>		Frequent
<i>Phagnalon graecum</i>		Walls and rocks
<i>Picnomon acarna</i>		Roadsides. Common
<i>Ptilostemon chamaepeuce</i>	Shrubby Ptilostemon	Cliffs. Imbros, Topolia
<i>Pulicaria odora</i>	A Fleabane	Occasional
<i>Rhagadiolus stellatus</i>	Star Hawkbit	Occasional
<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>	Spanish Oyster Plant	Occasional. Aptera
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle	Waste places
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly Sow Thistle	Olive Groves
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Smooth Sow Thistle	Olive Groves
<i>Staelina petiolata</i>	( <i>S. arborea</i> )	Cliffs. Endemic
<i>Xanthium spinosum</i>	Spiny Cocklebur	Weed. Falasarna
<b>Berberidaceae</b>	<b>Barberry Family</b>	
<i>Berberis cretica</i>	Cretan Barberry	Common in mountains
<b>Boraginaceae</b>	<b>Borage Family</b>	
<i>Echium angustifolium</i>	Narrow-leaved Bugloss	Coast. Red flowers
<i>Echium italicum</i> subsp. <i>biebersteinii</i>	Pale Bugloss	Common. White flowers
<i>Heliotropium europaeum</i>	Heliotrope	Waste ground. Frequent
<b>Brassicaceae</b>	<b>Cabbage Family</b>	
<i>Aethionema saxatile</i> subsp. <i>creticum</i>	Burnt Candytuft	Occasional. Mountains Endemic
<i>Aubrieta deltoidea</i>	Aubrieta	Omalos
<i>Brassica cretica</i> subsp. <i>cretica</i>	Cretan Cabbage	Imbros and Topolia Gorges
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sea Rocket	Coasts



<i>Erysimum candicum</i> subsp. <i>candicum</i>	A Wallflower	Cliffs. Imbros Gorge
<i>Erysimum raulinii</i>	A Wallflower	Imbros Gorge. Endemic
<i>Lunaria annua</i> subsp. <i>pachyrhiza</i>	Honesty	Aptera
<b>Cactaceae</b>	<b>Cactus family</b>	
<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i>	Prickly Pear	Widespread. Alien
<b>Campanulaceae</b>	<b>Bellflower Family</b>	
<i>Petromarula pinnata</i>	Cretan Wall Lettuce	Widespread on rocks. Endemic
<i>Campanula cretica</i>	( <i>Symphyandra</i> )	Imbros Gorge. Endemic
<b>Capparaceae</b>	<b>Caper Family</b>	
<i>Capparis spinosa</i>	Caper	Cliffs. Widespread
<b>Caprifoliaceae</b>	<b>Honeysuckle Family</b>	
<i>Lonicera etrusca</i>	Etruscan Honeysuckle	Topolia Gorge
<b>Caryophyllaceae</b>	<b>Pink Family</b>	
<i>Petrorhagia dianthoides</i>		Imbros Gorge Endemic
<i>Silene succulenta</i> subsp. <i>succulenta</i>		Coastal Sand. Elaphonisi Endemic
<b>Chenopodiaceae</b>	<b>Goosefoot Family</b>	
<i>Salsola kali</i>	Prickly Saltwort	Sandy Beach
<b>Cistaceae</b>	<b>Rock-rose Family</b>	
<i>Cistus creticus</i>	A pink Cistus	Common in maquis
<i>Cistus monspeliensis</i>	Narrow-leaved Cistus	Local in maquis
<i>Cistus parviflorus</i>	Few-flowered Cistus	Lowland maquis
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>	Sage-leaved Cistus	Locally common
<i>Fumana arabica</i>		Local in maquis
<b>Clusiaceae</b>	<b>St John's-Wort Family</b>	
<i>Hypericum empetrifolium</i>		Frequent in maquis
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St John's-Wort	Occasional
<i>Hypericum triquetrifolium</i>		Frequent
<b>Convolvulaceae</b>	<b>Bindweed Family</b>	
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>		Roadsides
<i>Convolvulus oleifolius</i>		Akrotiri
<i>Ipomoea indica</i>	A Morning Glory	Roadsides. Alien
<b>Crassulaceae</b>	<b>Stonecrop Family</b>	
<i>Rosularia serrata</i>		Imbros Gorge. Agia Sophia.
<i>Sedum amplexicaule</i> subsp. <i>tenuifolium</i>		Rocks. Imbros. Omalos
<i>Sedum creticum</i>		Imbros Gorge Endemic

<i>Sedum praesidis</i>		Imbros Gorge
<i>Sedum rubens</i>		Imbros Gorge
<i>Sedum sediforme</i>		Imbros Gorge
<i>Umbilicus horizontalis</i>	A Pennywort	Imbros Gorge
<b>Cuscutaceae</b>	<b>Dodder Family</b>	
<i>Cuscuta</i> sp.	A dodder	Frequent
<b>Cucurbitaceae</b>	<b>Cucumber Family</b>	
<i>Bryonia cretica</i>	White Bryony	Frequent
<i>Ecballium elaterium</i>	Squirting Cucumber	Waste places
<b>Dipsacaceae</b>	<b>Teasel Family</b>	
<i>Knautia integrifolia</i>	A Scabious	Waste Places
<b>Ericaceae</b>	<b>Heath Family</b>	
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry Tree	In flower and fruit
<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree Heather	Common in maquis
<i>Erica manipuliflora</i>		Locally common in maquis. In flower
<b>Euphorbiaceae</b>	<b>Spurge Family</b>	
<i>Euphorbia acanthothamnus</i>	Greek Spiny Spurge	Common
<i>Euphorbia characias</i>	Large Mediterranean Spurge	Locally common
<i>Euphorbia dendroides</i>	Tree Spurge	Coastal hillsides
<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	Sea Spurge	Elaphonisi
<i>Euphorbia pepelis</i>		Elaphonisi
<i>Euphorbia pulcherrima</i>	Poinsettia	Cultivated. Agia Triada
<i>Euphorbia chamaesyce</i>		Sand dunes
<i>Mercurialis annua</i>	Annual Mercury	Occasional weed
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Castor Oil Plant	Occasional
<b>Fabaceae</b>	<b>Pea Family</b>	
<i>Acacia retinoides</i>		Widely planted
<i>Anagyris foetida</i>	Bean Trefoil	Aptera
<i>Anthyllis hermanniae</i>		Local in phrygana
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i> subsp. <i>rubriflora</i>		Rocky places
<i>Astragalus angustifolius</i>		Spiny shrub. Omalos
<i>Bituminaria bituminosa</i>	Pitch Trefoil	Frequent
<i>Calycotome villosa</i>	Hairy Thorny Broom	Often dominant.
<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	Carob	Frequent tree, in fruit
<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i>	Judas Tree	Frequent. Planted
<i>Ebenus cretica</i>	Shrubby Sainfoin	Imbros and Topolia. Endemic
<i>Genista acanthoclada</i>		Common
<i>Medicago arborea</i>	Tree Medick	Hania. Roadsides
<i>Medicago marina</i>	Sea Medick	Coastal sand dunes
<i>Ononis spinosa</i> subsp. <i>diacantha</i>	Spiny Rest-harrow	Rocky places. Frequent
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	False Acacia	Widely planted

<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom	Common. Roadsides
<b>Fagaceae</b>	<b>Beech Family</b>	
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut	Damp valleys
<i>Quercus coccifera</i> subsp. <i>calliprinos</i>	Kermes Oak	Common. Often heavily grazed
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holm Oak	Frequent. Imbros Gorge
<i>Quercus ithaburensis</i> subsp. <i>macrolepis</i>	Valonia Oak	Agia Triada
<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy Oak	Locally common
<b>Juglandaceae</b>	<b>Walnut Family</b>	
<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut	Planted
<b>Lamiaceae</b>	<b>Mint Family</b>	
<i>Ballota acetabulosa</i>	Garden Horehound	Rocky places
<i>Ballota pseudodictamnus</i>		Rocky places
<i>Ballota nigra</i>	Black Horehound	Near habitation
<i>Coridothymus capitatus</i>	A shrubby Thyme	Common, in flower
<i>Lavandula stoechas</i>	French Lavender	Occasional
<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	White Horehound	Waste ground
<i>Origanum dictamnus</i>	Dittany	Cliffs, Imbros Gorge. Endemic
<i>Origanum microphyllum</i>		Imbros Gorge, Omalos Endemic
<i>Phlomis cretica</i>		Common
<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	Jerusalem Sage	Common
<i>Prasium majus</i>	Prasium	Common
<i>Salvia fruticosa</i>	Three-leaved Sage	Topolia
<i>Salvia pomifera</i>		Imbros, Sirikari Gorge
<i>Salvia verbenacea</i>	Wild Clary	Aptera
<i>Satureja alpina</i> subsp. <i>meridionalis</i>		Omalos
<i>Satureja cretica</i>	( <i>Calamintha</i> )	Imbros Gorge. Endemic
<i>Satureja juliana</i>	( <i>Micromeria</i> )	Common
<i>Satureja nervosa</i>	( <i>Micromeria</i> )	Common
<i>Satureja spinosa</i>	Spiny Satureia	Omalos. Endemic
<i>Satureja thymbra</i>	Satureia	Rocky places. Aromatic
<i>Scutellaria sieberi</i>	A Skullcap	Widespread. Endemic
<i>Sideritis syriaca</i>		Omalos. Endemic
<i>Stachys cretica</i> <i>alpestre</i>		Omalos. Rocky hillsides. Omalos Endemic
<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>	Wall Germander	Occasional
<b>Linaceae</b>	<b>Flax Family</b>	
<i>Linum arboreum</i>	Shrubby Flax	Imbros Gorge
<b>Malvaceae</b>	<b>Mallow Family</b>	
<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>	Hibiscus	Cultivated
<i>Lavatera arborea</i>	Tree Mallow	Coast. Hania

<i>Lavatera bryonifolia</i>		Frequent
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow	Common
<b>Meliaceae</b>	<b>Mahogany Family</b>	
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Indian Bead Tree	Cultivated. Roadsides
<b>Moraceae</b>	<b>Mulberry Family</b>	
<i>Ficus carica</i>	Fig	Frequent
<i>Morus alba</i>	White Mulberry	Commonly cultivated.
<b>Myrtaceae</b>	<b>Myrtle Family</b>	
<i>Myrtus communis</i>	Common Myrtle	Occasional
<b>Nyctaginaceae</b>	<b>Bougainvillea Family</b>	
<i>Bougainvillea glabra</i>	Bougainvillea	Widely planted
<b>Oleaceae</b>	<b>Ash Family</b>	
<i>Olea europaea</i>	Olive	Occasional, wild
<i>Phillyrea latifolia</i>	Mock Privet	Frequent in maquis
<b>Oxalidaceae</b>	<b>Wood Sorrel Family</b>	
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda Buttercup	Common weed. Alien
<b>Papaveraceae</b>	<b>Poppy Family</b>	
<i>Glaucium flavum</i>	Yellow Horned-poppy	Coast
<b>Phytolaccaceae</b>	<b>Pokeweed Family</b>	
<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	American Pokeweed	Occasional. Waste places. Alien
<b>Pittosporaceae</b>	<b>Pittosporum Family</b>	
<i>Pittosporum tobira</i>		Commonly cultivated
<b>Platanaceae</b>	<b>Plane Tree Family</b>	
<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	Oriental Plane	Common in damp valleys
<b>Plumbagiaceae</b>	<b>Thrift Family</b>	
<i>Limonium ?elaphonisicum</i>	A Sea-lavender	Elaphonisi. Endemic
<b>Polygalaceae</b>	<b>Milkwort Family</b>	
<i>Polygala myrtifolia</i>		Cultivated
<b>Polygonaceae</b>	<b>Dock Family</b>	
<i>Persicaria salicifolia</i>	A Knotgrass	Agia Lake
<i>Polygonum maritimum</i>	Sea Knotgrass	North coast
<i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i>	Bull's Head Dock	North coast
<b>Primulaceae</b>	<b>Primrose Family</b>	
<i>Cyclamen confusum</i>		Topolia, Sirikari Endemic
<i>Cyclamen graecum</i> subsp. <i>graecum</i>	Greek Sowbread	Spilia

<i>Cyclamen graecum</i> subsp. <i>candicum</i>		Imbros. Endemic
<i>Cyclamen hederifolium</i> subsp. <i>hederifolium</i>		Panorama Taverna
<i>Samolus valerandi</i>	Brookweed	Wet rocks. Falasarna
<b>Punicaceae</b>	<b>Pomegranate Family</b>	
<i>Punica granatum</i>	Pomegranate	Planted
<b>Ranunculaceae</b>	<b>Buttercup Family</b>	
<i>Clematis cirrhosa</i>	Virgin's Bower	Imbros, Aptera
<i>Delphinium staphisagria</i>		Imbros, Sirikari
<i>Ranunculus bullatus</i>		Widespread
<b>Rhamnaceae</b>	<b>Buckthorn Family</b>	
<i>Rhamnus lycioides</i> subsp. <i>oleoides</i>		Frequent. Rocky places
<b>Rosaceae</b>	<b>Rose Family</b>	
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	Frequent
<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Japanese Loquat	Cultivated
<i>Prunus dulcis</i>	Almond	Widely cultivated
<i>Prunus prostrata</i>	Rock Cherry	Omalos
<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i>	Firethorn	Roadsides. Planted
<i>Pyrus spinosa</i>	Wild Pear	Common
<i>Rubus sanctus</i>	A Bramble	Common. Pink flowers
<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	Thorny Burnet	Common in phrygana
<b>Rubiaceae</b>	<b>Bedstraw Family</b>	
<i>Galium fruticosum</i>		Cliffs. Endemic
<b>Rutaceae</b>	<b>Rue Family</b>	
<i>Citrus limon</i>	Lemon	Cultivated
<i>Citrus sinensis</i>	Orange	Cultivated
<i>Ruta chalepensis</i>	Fringed Rue	Occasional
<b>Salicaceae</b>	<b>Willow Family</b>	
<i>Populus alba</i>	White Poplar	Occasional. Planted
<b>Santalaceae</b>	<b>Sandalwood Family</b>	
<i>Osyris alba</i>	Osyris	Hemi-parasite. Red berries
<b>Saxifragaceae</b>	<b>Saxifrage Family</b>	
<i>Saxifraga rotundifolia</i> subsp. <i>chrysosplenifolia</i>		Shaded rocks. Imbros
<b>Scrophulariaceae</b>	<b>Figwort Family</b>	
<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Creeping Toadflax	Walls. Hania
<i>Scrophularia canina</i>	French Figwort	Rocky places
<i>Scrophularia lucida</i>	Shining Figwort	Occasional

<i>Scrophularia peregrina</i>	Nettle-leaved Figwort	Occasional
<i>Verbascum arcturus</i>	Shrubby Mullein	Cliffs. Endemic
<i>Verbascum macrurum</i>		Common
<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	Wavy-leaved Mullein	Common
<i>Verbascum spinosum</i>	Spiny Mullein	Hillsides and mountains. Endemic low shrub
<b>Simaroubaceae</b>	<b>Tree of Heaven Family</b>	
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of Heaven	Occasional. Alien
<b>Solanaceae</b>	<b>Potato Family</b>	
<i>Datura stramonium</i>	Thornapple	Waste ground. Alien
<i>Hyoscyamus albus</i>	Henbane	Polyrinia, Hania
<i>Mandragora officinarum</i>	Mandrake	Frequent
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	Shrubby Tobacco	Waste ground. Alien
<i>Solanum villosum</i>	Hairy Nightshade	Waste ground. Fruit red or yellow
<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	Black Nightshade	Waste ground. Fruit black
<i>Withania somnifera</i>	Withania	Waste ground. Apter
<b>Styracaceae</b>	<b>Storax Family</b>	
<i>Styrax officinalis</i>	Storax	Frequent. In fruit
<b>Tamaricaceae</b>	<b>Tamarisk Family</b>	
<i>Tamarix parviflora</i>		Sandy coast
<b>Thymelaceae</b>	<b>Daphne Family</b>	
<i>Daphne sericea</i>		Evergreen shrub. Omalos
<i>Thymelaea hirsuta</i>		Rocky places near the sea
<b>Ulmaceae</b>	<b>Elm Family</b>	
<i>Celtis australis</i>	Nettle Tree	Occasional
<i>Celtis tournefortii</i>	A Nettle Tree	Rare tree. Yellow fruit. Imbros Gorge
<i>Zelkova abelicea</i>		Rare endemic tree. Omalos.
<b>Urticaceae</b>	<b>Nettle Family</b>	
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Pellitory-of-the-wall	Walls. Common
<b>Valerianaceae</b>	<b>Valerian Family</b>	
<i>Valeriana asarifolia</i>		Imbros Gorge, Sirikari
<b>Verbenaceae</b>	<b>Verbena Family</b>	
<i>Verbena officinalis</i>	Vervain	Spilia
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Chaste Tree	Frequent. River beds
<b>Vitaceae</b>	<b>Vine Family</b>	
<i>Vitis vinifera</i>	Vine	Occasional

## MONOCOTYLEDONS

<b>Agavaceae</b> <i>Agave americana</i>	<b>Agave Family</b> Century Plant	Planted
<b>Alliaceae</b> <i>Allium ameloprasum</i> <i>Allium bourgeau</i> subsp. <i>creticum</i> <i>Allium callimischon</i> subsp. <i>haemostictum</i> <i>Allium chamaespathum</i> <i>Allium suhirsutum</i> <i>Allium tardans</i>	<b>Onion Family</b> Wild Leek	Polyrinia Topolia Gorge. Endemic  Imbros Gorge.  Topolia Topolia. In seed Marathocephala, Imbros
<b>Amaryllidaceae</b> <i>Narcissus serotinus</i> <i>Pancratium maritimum</i> <i>Sternbergia lutea</i>  <i>Sternbergia sicula</i>	<b>Daffodil Family</b>  Sea Daffodil Common Sternbergia	Occasional Coastal dunes. Marathocephala, Elos, Polyrinia. Cultivated Gorges
<b>Araceae</b> <i>Arisarum vulgare</i> <i>Arum concinatum</i> <i>Biarum davisii</i> subsp. <i>davisii</i>	<b>Arum Family</b> Friar's Cowl	Frequent Sirikari Gorge. Endemic West coast. Endemic
<b>Asparagaceae</b> <i>Asparagus aphyllus</i>	<b>Asparagus Family</b>	Frequent
<b>Asphodelaceae</b> <i>Asphodeline lutea</i> <i>Asphodelus ramosus</i>	<b>Asphodel Family</b> Yellow Asphodel Spring Asphodel	Common. Imbros Common
<b>Colchicaceae</b> <i>Colchicum cretense</i>  <i>Colchicum pusillum</i>	<b>Colchicum Family</b>	Omalos. Endemic  Sirikari Gorge
<b>Cyperaceae</b> <i>Cyperus capitatus</i>	<b>Sedge Family</b>	Sand dunes
<b>Dioscoridaceae</b> <i>Tamus communis</i>	<b>Yam Family</b> Black Bryony	Occasional
<b>Graminae</b> <i>Arundo donax</i> <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> <i>Desmazenia rigida</i> <i>Melica rectiflora</i>	<b>Grass Family</b> Giant Reed Marram Grass Fern-grass	Common. Naturalised Sand dunes Occasional Imbros Gorge

<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common Reed	Wet areas
<b>Hyacinthaceae</b>	<b>Hyacinth Family</b>	
<i>Charybdis maritima</i>	( <i>Urginea</i> ) Sea Squill	Locally common
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel Hyacinth	Imbros Gorge. Leaves
<i>Ornithogalum narbonense</i>		West coast
<i>Prospero autumnale</i>	( <i>Scilla</i> ) Autumn Squill	Common
<b>Iridaceae</b>	<b>Iris Family</b>	
<i>Crocus laevigatus</i>		Imbros, Omalos
<b>Juncaceae</b>	<b>Rush Family</b>	
<i>Juncus littoralis</i>		Elaphonisi
<b>Posidoniaceae</b>	<b>Posidonia Family</b>	
<i>Posidonia oceanica</i>	Neptune Grass	Washed-up remains on Beaches
<b>Ruscaceae</b>	<b>Butcher's Broom Family</b>	
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i>	Butcher's Broom	Sirikari Gorge. Topolia
<b>Smilacaceae</b>	<b>Smilax Family</b>	
<i>Smilax aspera</i>	Smilax	Common
<b>Typhaceae</b>	<b>Reedmace Family</b>	
<i>Typha domingensis</i>		Agia Lake

## Birds

Mute Swan – *Cygnus olor*  
 Eurasian Widgeon – *Anas penelope*  
 Mallard – *Anas platyrhynchos*  
 Northern Shoveler – *Anas clypeata*  
 Eurasian Teal – *Anas crecca*  
 Ferruginous Duck – *Aythya nyroca*  
 Little Grebe – *Tachybaptus ruficollis*  
 Great Egret – *Ardea albus*  
 Grey Heron – *Ardea cinerea*  
 Little Egret – *Egretta garzetta*  
 European Shag – *Phalacrocorax*  
 Griffon Vulture – *Gyps fulvus*  
 Western Marsh Harrier – *Circus aeruginosus*  
 Eurasian Sparrowhawk – *Accipiter nisus*  
 Common Buzzard – *Buteo buteo*  
 Long-legged Buzzard – *Buteo rufinus*  
 Common Kestrel – *Falco tinnunculus*  
 Lanner Falcon – *Falco biarmicus*  
 Water rail – *Rallus aquaticus*  
 Common Moorhen – *Gallinula chloropus*  
 Eurasian Coot – *Fulica atra*  
 Grey Plover – *Pluvialis squatarola*  
 Common Sandpiper – *Actitis hypoleucos*



Ruddy Turnstone – *Arenaria interpres*  
 Yellow-legged Gull – *Larus cachinnans*  
 Rock Dove – *Columba livia*  
 Eurasian Collared Dove – *Streptopelia decaocta*  
 Common Kingfisher – *Alcedo atthis*  
 Eurasian Jay – *Garrulus glandarius*  
 Red-billed Chough – *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*  
 Alpine Chough – *Pyrrhocorax graculus*  
 Hooded Crow – *Corvus corone cornix*  
 Northern Raven – *Corvus corax*  
 Great Tit – *Parus major*  
 Eurasian Blue Tit – *Parus caerulea*  
 Marsh Tit – *Parus palustris*  
 Crested Lark – *Galerida cristata*  
 Wood Lark – *Lulula arborea*  
 Barn Swallow – *Hirundo rustica*  
 Eurasian Crag Martin – *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*  
 Common House Martin – *Delichon urbica*  
 Cetti's Warbler – *Cettia cetti*  
 Common Chiffchaff – *Phylloscopus collibita*  
 Sardinian Warbler – *Sylvia melanocephala*  
 Common Firecrest – *Regulus ignicapilla*  
 Eurasian Wren – *Troglodytes troglodytes*  
 Common Starling – *Sturnus vulgaris*  
 Common Blackbird – *Turdus merula*  
 Mistle Thrush – *Turdus viscivorus*  
 European Robin – *Erithacus rubicula*  
 Black Redstart – *Phoenicurus ochruros*  
 European Stonechat – *Saxicola torquata*  
 Blue Rock Thrush – *Monticola solitarius*  
 House Sparrow – *Passer domesticus*  
 Spanish Sparrow – *Passer hispaniolensis*  
 Grey Wagtail – *Motacilla cinerea*  
 White Wagtail – *Motacilla alba*  
 Common Chaffinch – *Fringilla coelebs*  
 European Serin – *Serinus serinus*  
 European Goldfinch – *Carduelis carduelis*  
 Common Linnet – *Carduelis cannabina*

#### Mammals

Kri-kri                                      *Capra hircus cretensis*

#### Reptiles

Balkan Green Lizard                      *Lacerta trilineata*  
 Cretan Wall Lizard                        *Podarcis cretensis*  
 Stripe-necked Terrapin                    *Mauremys caspica*

#### Butterflies

Swallowtail                                 *Papilio machaon*  
 Large White                                 *Pieris brassicae*

Small White	<i>Artogeia rapae</i>
Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>
Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>
Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>
Long-tailed Blue	<i>Lampides boeticus</i>
Lang's Short-tailed Blue	<i>Leptotes pirithous</i>
Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>
Cardinal	<i>Argynnis pandora</i>
Cretan Grayling	<i>Hipparchia cretica</i>
Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>
Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>
Mallow Skipper	<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>

#### Moths

Hummingbird Hawkmoth	<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>
Spurge Hawkmoth (larva)	<i>Hyles euphorbiae</i>

#### Dragonflies

Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombei</i>
Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>
Vagrant Emperor	<i>Hemianax ephipigger</i>
Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>
Eastern Willow Spreadwing	<i>Lestes parvidens</i>

#### Other Insects

Red-winged Grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda germanica</i>
Blue-winged Grasshopper	<i>Oedipoda carulescens</i>
Migratory Locust	<i>Locusta migratoria</i>
Egyptian Grasshopper	<i>Anacridium aegyptium</i>
Nosed Grasshopper	<i>Acrida hungarica</i>
Praying Mantis	<i>Mantis religiosa</i>
Violet Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>
Oriental Hornet	<i>Vespa orientalis</i>