

Corsica in Autumn

Naturetrek Tour Report

16 - 23 September 2012



Alpine Chough



Colchicum neapolitanum



Scarlet Darter

Report and images compiled by David Tattersfield



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Day 1

Sunday 16th September

After an early flight from Gatwick, we arrived in Bastia in hot sunshine. Half an hour's drive took us inland to Ponte Leccia, where we stopped for drinks. A pair of Hawfinches, an unusual sight in Corsica, was busy feeding on the fruit of a large Nettle Tree, *Celtis australis*, in the car park. Our early arrival allowed us time to follow the dramatic coastline, so we headed north at first and then west to Calvi. While Andrew and I shopped for lunch, the group explored the town and enjoyed refreshments by the picturesque harbour. We drove south through maquis-covered hills to a little rocky inlet, just north of Galeria, where we had lunch. On the coastal rocks, two of the islands rare endemics were flowering, Corsican Stork's Bill, *Erodium corsicum* and the curious Sea Lavender, *Limonium corsicum*. In the sea were a number of molluscs, some inhabited by tiny Hermit Crabs and the strange brown alga, Peacock's Tail, *Padina pavonica*. Perched just offshore we were amazed to see an Audouin's Gull, one of the world's rarest species of Gull, restricted to the shores of the Mediterranean but showing a healthy population rise in recent years.

We drove south through the dense maquis, stopping at the Col de Palmarella for the view down over the Golfe de Girolata and the rugged headland of Scandola. The route became more dramatic as we passed the red granite cliffs on the approach to Porto, where we turned inland for the dramatic climb to Evisa. After a long day we arrived around 6.00 pm in a pleasant temperature of 24 degrees C and settled into our hotel before dinner.

Day 2

Monday 17th September

The day dawned clear with the promise of a sunny day ahead. After breakfast we strolled down through Evisa to the start of the old mule trail down into the depths of the Spelunca Gorge. Our first *Cyclamen bederifolium* and *Colchicum neapolitanum* were growing alongside the path as we descended through dense mature maquis. Firecrests could be heard in the treetops and after a lot of patience were eventually seen by some of the party. We had lunch by the magnificent old Genoese Zaglia Bridge, before following a more level path along the course of an eroded basalt dyke which brought us out into hot sunshine at the foot of the gorge.

Right on cue, Two-tailed Pashas glided overhead and obligingly perched on Strawberry Tree, *Arbutus unedo*, their larval food-plant. As an added bonus we also saw Cardinal, Southern Speckled Wood and Southern White Admiral. On reaching the road we ferried everyone up to the delightful village of Ota, to enjoy a relaxing drink while Andrew and I returned to Evisa for the second vehicle. We descended to Porto and took the coast road a little way south to the Calanches de Piana, where we spent some time enjoying the dramatic spectacle of the eroded pink granite cliffs in the late-afternoon light. A special plant growing here was the delicate pink endemic Snowflake, *Acis rosea*, while perched high on a prominent boulder, in typical pose was a Blue Rock Thrush. Our extra diversion meant we were back at the hotel by 6.45pm before a delicious wild boar stew.

Day 3

Tuesday 18th September

After breakfast, we drove a short distance up into the Foret d'Aitone. The forest here is dominated by Corsican Pine, *Pinus nigra* subsp. *laricio*, with Silver Fir, *Abies alba*, and an under-storey of Holly, *Ilex aquifolium* and a short walk as far as the river was full of interest. We had splendid views of Treecreeper probing for insects in the fissured bark of the pines and close views of Firecrest and Goldcrest. Near the ruins of a chestnut mill by the river were Willow Gentian, *Gentiana asclepiadea*, Corsican Leopard's Bane, *Doronicum corsicum*, and curtains of Corsican Bog Asphodel, *Narthecium ossifragum*, on the wet rocks. Returning to our vehicles, we moved on to another area of forest and were immediately rewarded with views of Crossbill and Corsican Nuthatch feeding overhead. Wet areas of the forest contained large stands of Willow Gentian and a carpet of strong-smelling Corsican Mint, *Mentha requinii*. A large area of exposed granite was home to several Bedriaga's Rock Lizard along with the very common Tyrrhenian Wall Lizard.

We drove to the Col de Sevi, at 1,101 metres, for lunch where the local pigs provided some entertainment and then south to the Liamone Estuary on the coast. On the narrow strip of dunes, Yellow Horned Poppy, *Glaucium flavum*, was still in flower among a number of pioneer plants that included Sea Rocket, *Cakile maritime*, Sea Medick, *Medicago maritima*, and Sea Bindweed, *Caystegia soldanella*. Mixed flocks of birds, behind the dunes, included Goldfinch, Linnet, Serin, a few Corsican Finch and a couple of Corn Buntings, while another solitary Audouin's Gull was on the edge of the lagoon. Several insects were noted, including Nosed Grasshopper, Scarlet Darter, *Crocothemis erythraea*, and the endemic Corsican Blue-tailed Damselfly, *Ischnura genei*. A relaxing drink at a café rounded off another hot afternoon. On our way back, we stopped by a new waste disposal site where we watched the aerial antics of dozens of Red Kites and over 100 Ravens, followed by a brief stop at the Col de Sevi.

Day 4

Wednesday 19th September

The good weather was not to last and we awoke to grey skies and the threat of rain. After breakfast, we departed for Col de Vergio, where light rain had already started. After a little hesitation we decided to venture out. We followed a track towards the top of the ski-tows through prostrate Juniper, *Juniperus communis* subsp. *alpina* and endemic broom, *Genista salzmannii* var. *lobelioides*. Here at the tree-line were stunted Corsican Pine and Beech, *Fagus sylvatica*, many of which were grazed into low hummocks. Mt Etna Barberry, *Berberis aetnensis* was covered in glowing red berries and in the short turf several more endemic plants including *Plantago sarda* and *Armeria multiceps*. We managed to locate several Woodlarks, before rain forced us to seek shelter under a Beech Tree. We continued upwards bravely but finally had to admit defeat and returned to the minibus.

After a long drive down through the forest to the east, we stopped, during a dry interlude, in thin Pine and Chestnut forest where we found the odd Corsican Finch and a few Red Crossbills. The rain returned, so we retreated to a cafe in Calacuccia to wait for an improvement. Eventually the rain showed signs of abating and we continued down into the Santa Regina Gorge for lunch. We had excellent views of Dipper, Golden Eagle and Blue Rock Thrush, while we ate and the sun came out. Below the gorge a scrubby area near the railway provided excellent views of Marmora's Warbler, a bird we were all particularly keen to see. Calling in to Corte gave us an opportunity for a short exploration of the old part of the town and its Citadel, before we drove south through Venaco and arrived at our hotel by 5.30.

Day 5

Thursday 20th September

After an early-morning walk and breakfast we shopped in Venaco and drove a short distance south to the Verghello Valley, where Gustav Eiffel's dramatic railway bridge and the elegant modern road bridge spans the gorge. Crag Martins wheeled underneath the arches and a Peregrine Falcon was seen over the high crags. We walked slowly, enjoying a variety of butterflies on the masses of Yellow Odontites, *Odontites lutea*, and the flowers of *Daphne gnidium* that lined the road. Autumn Lady's Tresses, *Spiranthes spiralis* took a lot of finding and was just emerging from its long summer rest.

At the top of the road we walked a little way into the pine forest before a relaxing lunch. We had fleeting glimpses of Corsican Finch and Red Crossbill, before we left for the top of the pass at Col Vizzavona. Here the Beech forest attains cathedral-like proportions with little of a ground flora except *Cyclamen bederifolium*. Deadly Nightshade, *Atropa bella-donna*, was growing in a clearing and Porcelain Fungus was one of many fungi, growing on decaying wood. We walked down to the Cascades des Anglais through open mixed forest with abundant Cyclamen and then finished the afternoon enjoying drinks at Vizzavona Station, the highest on Corsica's unique railway.

Day 6

Friday 21st September

At last the weather looked settled and we set off for Corte and the Restonica Valley. We stopped in the lower part of the valley and spent a while watching Corsican Nuthatch and Treecreeper flitting among the tall Corsican Pine. We continued upwards through the dramatic granite gorge to the car park and the start of our walk. The low-growing Corsican Alder, *Alnus alnobetula* subsp. *suaveolens* dominates the landscape with scattered trees of Sycamore, *Acer pseudoplatanus* and the endemic *Sorbus aucuparia* subsp. *praemorsa*. Wet areas support Corsican Butterwort, *Pinguicula corsica*, while on the cliffs are patches of the white everlasting flower, *Helichrysum frigidum*. A couple of hours later, after negotiating a steeper section where ladders facilitated our progress, we arrived at the beautiful Lac de Melo, an almost circular glacial lake surrounded by soaring granite cliffs.

A large boulder provided an ideal picnic table and as we finished lunch, Alpine Choughs descended to finish the leftovers. They particularly liked the ham and provided great entertainment as they fed from our hands. Andrew and Dominic set off for the higher Lac de Capitello while the rest of us descended to the cafe. We lingered here a while after a memorable day before returning to the hotel.

Day 7

Saturday 22nd September

Rather than spend a lot of time driving to the coast, we returned to Corte and followed a good trail up into the Tavignano Valley. The localised endemic, Corsican Lavender Cotton, *Santolina corsica* grows here with Rosemary and Cistus on folded schists. The south-facing scrub is a regular breeding site for the resident Marmora's Warbler and we managed eventually to locate a few along with the more common Sardinian Warbler. Several Blue Rock Thrushes were also busy feeding and large flocks of House Martins flew round the crags. We stopped for lunch just after crossing a major geological fault, which marks the boundary with the granite. Queen of Spain Fritillary was a final addition to our butterfly list. It had been a hot day with the temperature up to 30 degrees, so we made our way slowly back to Corte and returned to the hotel to relax before our meal.

Day 8

Sunday 23rd September

Sadly our week was at an end and, after an early breakfast, we headed back to Bastia airport, where we arrived in plenty of time for check-in. It had been a very enjoyable week and we had seen a broad cross-section of Corsica's stunning scenery and interesting natural history.

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Systematic list of plants recorded

The term, 'endemic', is applied to taxa restricted to Corsica, Sardinia, Sicily, adjacent parts of Italy or the Balearic Islands.

For ease of reference, plant families are listed in alphabetic order.

PTERIDOPHYTA

FERNS AND FERN ALLIES

Adiantaceae

Adiantum capillus-veneris
Cheilanthes maderensis

Maidenhair Fern Family

Maidenhair Fern Wet rocks. Spelunca
Dry cliffs. Spelunca

Aspidiaceae

Dryopteris dilatata
Dryopteris felix-mas
Polystichum aculeatum
Polystichum setiferum

Broad Buckler Fern Above Lac de Melo
Male Fern Forests
Hard Shield-fern Cascades des Anglais
Soft Shield Fern Foret d'Aitone

Aspleniaceae

Asplenium adiantum-nigrum
Asplenium ceterach
Asplenium onopteris
Asplenium ruta-muraria
Asplenium septentrionale
Asplenium trichomanes

Spleenwort Family

Black Spleenwort Occasional, on rocks
Rustyback Fern Occasional, on rocks
Irish Spleenwort Shady rocks. Spelunca
Wall Rue Walls
Forked Spleenwort Rocks. Foret d'Aitone, Restonica
Maidenhair Spleenwort Occasional, on rocks

Athyriaceae

Athyrium distentifolium
Athyrium felix-femina

Lady Fern Family

Alpine Lady Fern Above Lac de Melo
Lady Fern Foret d'Aitone

Blechnaceae

Blechnum spicant

Blechnum Family

Hard Fern Foret d'Aitone

Cyptogrammaceae

Cryptogramma crispata

Parsley Fern Family

Parsley Fern Sub-alpine. Restonica

Denstaedtiaceae

Pteridium aquilinum

Bracken Family

Bracken Common

Hemionitidaceae

Anogramma leptophylla

Damp places. Spelunca

Osmundaceae

Osmunda regalis

Osmunda Family

Royal Fern By rivers. Common

Polypodiaceae

Polypodium cambricum

Polypody Family

Southern Polypody Occasional, on rocks

Selaginellaceae

Selaginella denticulata

Lesser Clubmoss Family

Mediterranean Selaginella Damp areas. Frequent

GYMNOSPERMAE**Cupressaceae**

Juniperus communis subsp.
alpina
Juniperus oxycedrus

Pinaceae

Abies alba

Pinus nigra subsp. *laricio*
Pinus pinea
Pinus pinaster

Pseudotsuga menziesii

Taxaceae

Taxus baccata

CONIFERS**Cypress Family**

Common Juniper Common in mountains
Prickly Juniper Common in maquis

Pine Family

Silver Fir Foret d'Aitone.
Vizzavona
Corsican Pine Endemic. Forests
Umbrella Pine Planted near coasts
Maritime Pine Common in lower forests.
Probably not native
Douglas Fir Planted. Foret d'Aitone

Yew Family

Yew Cascades des Anglais

ANGIOSPERMAE**FLOWERING PLANTS****DICOTYLEDONS****Aceraceae**

Acer monspessulanum
Acer pseudoplatanus

Maple Family

Montpelier Maple Occasional
Sycamore Restonica

Aizoaceae

Carpobrotus edulis

Dewplant Family

Yellow Hottentot Fig Coastal

Anacardiaceae

Pistacia lentiscus
Pistacia terebinthus

Sumach Family

Lentisc
Turpentine tree Frequent in maquis

Apiaceae

Bupleurum fruticosum
Crithmum maritimum
Daucus carota
Eryngium campestre
Eryngium maritimum
Foeniculum vulgare
Ferula communis
Mutellina corsica var. *Corsica*
Sanicula europaea

Carrot Family

Shrubby Hare's-ear Rocky places in maquis
Rock Samphire Coastal Rocks
Wild Carrot Common
Field Eryngo Frequent
Sea Holly Coast
Fennel Widespread
Giant Fennel Santa Regina Gorge
A Lovage Restonica
Sanicle Occasional

Apocyanaceae

Nerium oleander

Periwinkle Family

Oleander By streams in maquis

Aquifoliaceae

Ilex aquifolium

Holly Family

Holly Frequent in forests

Araliaceae

Hedera helix

Ivy Family

Ivy Widespread

Asclepiadaceae

Gomphocarpus fruticosus
Vincetoxicum hirundinaria

Asteraceae

Achillea ligustica
Adenostyles briquetii
Anthemis maritimus
Bellium bellidioides
Bellium nivale
Bellis perennis
Bellis sylvestris
Carduus pycnocephalus
Carduus tenuiflorus
Carlina corymbosa
Carlina macrocephala subsp.
 macrocephala
Cichorium intybus
Cirsium vulgare
Dittrichia graveolens
Dittrichia viscosa
Doronicum corsicum
Galactites tomentosus
Glebionis coronarium
Glebionis segetum
Gnaphthium supinum
Helichrysum frigidum
Helichrysum italicum
Hypochoeris glabra
Hypochaeris radicata
Inula crithmoides
Lapsana communis
Mycelis muralis
Onopordon illyricum
Otanthus maritimus
Phagnalon saxatile
Prenanthes purpurea
Ptilostemon casabonae
Pulicaria odora
Robertia taraxacoides
Santolina corsica
Scolymus hispanicus
Silybum marianum
Solidago virgaurea
Sonchus asper
Sonchus oleraceus
Xanthium spinosum

Berberidaceae

Berberis aetnensis

Betulaceae

Alnus alnobetula subsp.
 suaveolens
Alnus cordata
Alnus glutinosa
Betula pendula

Boraginaceae

Cynoglossum creticum
Echium italicum
Echium plantagineum
Heliotropium europaeum

Milkweed Family

Bristle-fruited Silkweed Occasional. Alien
Swallow-wort Restonica

Daisy Family

An Adenostyles Common
Sea Chamomile Restonica. Endemic
Coast
Common. Endemic
Pozzines. Lac de Melo. Endemic
Daisy Occasional
Southern Daisy Frequent
Common. Waste ground
Slender Thistle Coast
Corymbose Carline Thistle Common to 1000m
Large-headed Carline Thistle Occasional above 1000m
Endemic
Chicory Occasional. Roadsides
Spear Thistle Common
Roadsides
Stink Aster Yellow flowers.
Corsican Leopard'-bane Aitone, Lac de Melo. Endemic
Galactites Waste places
Crown Daisy Widespread
Corn Marigold Liamone beach
Dwarf Cudweed Pozzines. Lac de Melo
Mountain rocks. Endemic
Curry Plant Rocky places
Smooth cat's-ear Frequent
Common Cat's-ear Biguglia
Golden Samphire Biguglia beach
Nipplewort Waste places
Wall Lettuce Walls
Illyrian Scotch Thistle Common. Waste ground
Cottonweed Sandy coasts
Rocks at low altitudes
Purple Lettuce Occasional. Forests and rocks
Verghello. Restonica. Endemic
Common in maquis
A Fleabane Widespread. Endemic
Tavignano. Endemic
Spanish Oyster Plant Roadsides
Milk Thistle Waste places
Goldenrod Mountain rocks
Prickly Sow Thistle Waste places
Smooth Sow Thistle Waste places
Spiny Cocklebur Sand dunes

Barberry Family

Mt. Etna Barberry Mountains. Endemic

Birch Family

Italian Alder Sub-alpine. Restonica
Endemic
Common Alder Frequent. Endemic
Common by rivers
Silver Birch Forests to tree-line

Borage Family

Cretan Hound's Tongue Roadsides. Occasional
Pale Bugloss Roadsides. Occasional
Purple Viper's Bugloss Occasional. Waste ground
Heliotrope Common. Waste ground

Brassicaceae

Arabis alpina subsp. *alpina*
Barbarea rupicola
Cakile maritima
Capsella bursa-pastoris
Cardamine hirsuta
Isatis tinctoria
Lepidium hirtum subsp.
oxytotum
Lobularia maritima
Lunaria annua
Maresia nana
Matthiola sinuata
Matthiola tricuspidata
Raphanus raphanistrum
 subsp. *maritimum*
Sinapsis alba
Sinapsis arvensis

Cabbage Family

Sea Rocket
 Shepherd's Purse
 Hairy Bitter-cress
 Woad

 Sweet Alison
 Honesty
 Maresia
 Sea Stock
 Three-horned Stock
 Sea Radish

 White Mustard
 Charlock

Restonica
 Rocks and shady cliffs. Endemic
 Coasts
 Widespread
 Widespread
 Roadsides
 Mountains. Endemic

 Coasts
 Occasional
 Sand dunes
 Coastal
 Coastal
 Liamone estuary

 Waste ground
 Waste ground

Buddlejaceae

Buddleja davidii

Butterfly Bush Family

Butterfly Bush

Near habitation. Alien

Buxaceae

Buxus sempervirens

Box Family

Box

Spelunca

Cactaceae

Opuntia ficus-barbarica
Opuntia microdasys

Cactus Family

Prickly Pear

Widely planted
 Planted. Corte

Campanulaceae

Jasione montana
Phyteuma serratum

Bellflower Family

Sheep's-bit
 Toothed Rampion

Mountain rocks
 Rocks above Lac de Melo. Endemic

Caprifoliaceae

Lonicera etrusca
Sambucus ebulus

Honeysuckle Family

Etruscan Honeysuckle
 Danewort

Occasional
 Foret d,Aitone,
 Col Vizzavona
 Occasional
 Shaded maquis. Spelunca

Sambucus nigra
Viburnum tinus

Elderberry
 Laurustinus

Caryophyllaceae

Arenaria balearica
Cerastium soleirolii
Dianthus furcatus subsp.
gyspergerae
Dianthus sylvestris subsp.
godronianus
Kohlrauschia velutina
Paronychia polygonifolia
Petrorhagia saxifraga subsp.
gasparrinii
Saponaria ocymoides subsp.
alsinoides
Saponaria officinalis
Silene vulgaris

Pink Family

Balearic Sandwort
 A Mouse-ear Chickweed
 Madame Gysperger's Pink.
 Godron's Pink
 Kohlrauschia

 Soapwort
 Bladder Campion

Shaded rocks
 Mountains. Endemic
 Calanche de Piana.
 Very local endemic
 Occasional on rocks
 Endemic
 Occasional
 Mountains
 Frequent on rocks.
 Endemic
 Occasional on rocks.
 Endemic
 Roadsides. Occasional
 Frequent

Chenopodiaceae

Beta vulgaris subsp. *Maritime*
Chenopodium album

Goosefoot Family

Sea Beet
 Fathen

Liamone estuary
 Occasional weed

Cistaceae

Cistus creticus
Cistus monspeliensis
Cistus salvifolius

Rock-rose Family

Narrow-leaved Cistus
 Sage-leaved Cistus

Common in maquis
 Common in maquis
 Common in maquis

Convolvulaceae

Convolvulus althaeoides
Convolvulus arvensis
Calystegia sepium
Calystegia soldanella
Cuscuta campestris
Cuscuta epithymum subsp.
corsicana

Bindweed Family

Mallow-leaved bindweed
 Field bindweed
 Large Bindweed
 Sea Bindweed
 A Dodder
 A Dodder

Tavignano valley
 Occasional weed
 Occasional
 Liamone estuary
 Alien
 Frequent

Corylaceae

Corylus avellana

Hazel Family

Hazel

Frequent

Crassulaceae

Sedum album
Sedum brevifolium
Sedum caeruleum
Sedum dasyphyllum
Umbilicus rupestris

Stonecrop Family

White Stonecrop
 Short-leaved Stonecrop
 Blue Stonecrop. Annual
 Thick-leaved Stonecrop
 Navelwort

Rocks. Frequent
 Mountain rocks.
 Spelunca. Endemic
 Rocks and walls
 Rocks. Common

Dipsacaceae

Knautia integrifolia

Teasel Family

Waste places

Ericaceae

Arbutus unedo
Erica arborea
Erica terminalis
Vaccinium myrtillus

Heath Family

Strawberry Tree
 Tree Heath
 Corsican Heath
 Bilberry

Maquis
 Maquis
 Tavignano Valley
 Restonica

Euphorbiaceae

Euphorbia amygdaloides
Euphorbia characias subsp.
characias
Euphorbia dendroides
Euphorbia exigua
Euphorbia helioscopia
Euphorbia hyberna subsp.
insularis
Euphorbia lathyris
Euphorbia maculata
Euphorbia paralias
Euphorbia pithyusa subsp.
pithyusa

Spurge Family

Wood Spurge
 Large Mediterranean Spurge
 Tree Spurge
 Dwarf Spurge
 Sun Spurge
 An Irish Spurge
 Caper Spurge
 Sea Spurge
 A Spurge

Frequent. Forests
 Widespread
 Coastal cliffs. Porto
 Occasional
 Waste ground
 Forest clearings
 Endemic
 Evisa
 Trackways. Alien
 Dunes
 Coast

Fabaceae

Anthyllis hermanniae
Bituminaria bituminosa
Calycotome infesta
Calycotome villosa
Genista corsica
Genista salzmannii var.
lobelioides
Genista salzmannii var.
salzmannii
Lathyrus latifolius
Lotus corniculatus
Medicago lupulina
Medicago marina

Pea Family

Pitch Trefoil
 Thorny Broom
 Hairy Thorny Broom
 Broad-winged Pea
 Birdsfoot Trefoil
 Black Medick
 Sea Medick

Common
 Common
 Maquis
 Maquis
 Open maquis. Endemic
 Mountains. Endemic
 Lower altitudes than var.
lobelioides. Endemic
 Occasional
 Occasional
 Frequent
 Coasts

<i>Ononis spinosa</i>	Spiny Restharrow	Garrigue near Calacuccia
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom	Roadsides
<i>Teline monspessulana</i>	Teline	Common in maquis
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	Widespread
<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>	Starry Clover	Common
Fagaceae	Beech Family	
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut	Widely planted
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech	Forests to tree-line
<i>Quercus coccifera</i>	Kermes Oak	Maquis
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holm Oak	Common in maquis
<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy Oak	Venaco
<i>Quercus suber</i>	Cork Oak	Lowland maquis
Fumariaceae	Fumitory Family	
<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	White Ramping Fumitory	Occasional
Gentianaceae	Gentian Family	
<i>Centaurium</i> sp.	A Centaury	Spelunca
<i>Gentiana asclepiadea</i>	Willow Gentian	Foret d'Aitone. Restonica
Geraniaceae	Geranium Family	
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Stork's-bill	Coast and waste places
<i>Erodium corsicum</i>	Corsican Stork's-bill	Galeria
<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	Shining Crane's-bill	Spelunca
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	Occasional
<i>Geranium pyrenaicum</i>	Pyrenean Crane's-bill	Roadsides
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	Widespread
Hypericaceae	St. John's-wort Family	
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St. John's-wort	Frequent
<i>Hypericum tetrapterum</i>	Square-stalked St. John's-wort	Wet places
Juglandaceae	Walnut Family	
<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut	Occasional. Planted
Lamiaceae	Mint Family	
<i>Calamintha nepeta</i>	Lesser Calamint	Waste places, Widespread
<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	Wild Basil	Spelunca
<i>Lavandula stoechas</i>	French Lavender	Rocky places in maquis
<i>Mentha aquatica</i>	Water Mint	Wet areas. Foret d'Aitone
<i>Mentha requienii</i>	Corsican Mint	Damp places. Endemic
<i>Mentha spicata</i>	Spear Mint	Frequent
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Rosemary	Hot rocky places
<i>Stachys corsica</i>	Corsican Germander	Frequent. Endemic
<i>Stachys glutinosa</i>		Rocky places. Endemic
<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i>	Wall Germander	Occasional
<i>Teucrium marum</i>		Rocky places. Endemic
<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	Wood Sage	Common in forests
<i>Thymus herba-barona</i>		Mountains. Endemic
Lentibulariaceae	Butterwort Family	
<i>Pinguicula corsica</i>	Corsican Butterwort	Wet places. Restonica Endemic
Loranthaceae	Mistletoe Family	
<i>Viscum album</i> subsp. <i>austriacum</i>	Mistletoe	Common on Pine and Fir
Lythraceae	Loosestrife Family	
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple Loosestrife	Calvi

Malvaceae <i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Mallow Family Common Mallow	Roadsides
Moraceae <i>Ficus carica</i> <i>Morus alba</i>	Mulberry Family Fig White Mulberry	Frequent in maquis Planted
Myrtaceae <i>Myrtus communis</i>	Myrtle Family Myrtle	Frequent in maquis
Oleaceae <i>Olea europaea</i> var. <i>sylvestris</i> <i>Fraxinus ornus</i> <i>Phillyrea angustifolia</i> <i>Phillyrea latifolia</i>	Ash Family Wild Olive Manna Ash Narrow-leaved Mock Privet Broad-leaved Mock Privet	Maquis Below Evisa Frequent in maquis Maquis
Onagraceae <i>Epilobium angustifolium</i>	Willowherb Family Rosebay Willowherb	Roadsides. Occasional
Oxalidaceae <i>Oxalis articulata</i> <i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Wood-sorrel Family Pink Oxalis Bermuda Buttercup	Alien. Garden escape Alien weed
Papaveraceae <i>Glaucium flavum</i>	Poppy Family Yellow Horned-poppy	Landfill. Santa Regina Gorge
Phytolaccaceae <i>Phytolacca acinos</i>	Pokeweed Family Pokeweed	Fields and waste places. Alien
Portulacaceae <i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Blinks Family Common Purslane	Tavignano, near Corte
Plantaginaceae <i>Plantago coronopus</i> <i>Plantago lanceolata</i> <i>Plantago major</i> <i>Plantago sarda</i> var. <i>sarda</i>	Plantain Family Buck's-horn Plantain Ribwort Plantain Greater Plantain	Occasional Widespread Waste ground Sub-alpine pasture. Endemic
Platanaceae <i>Plananus x hispanica</i>	Plane Family London Plane	Planted
Plumbaginaceae <i>Armeria leucocephala</i> <i>Armeria multiceps</i> <i>Limonium corsicum</i> <i>Plumbago europaea</i>	Thrift Family A white Thrift A Sea Lavender European Plumbago	Santa Regina Gorge. Restonica. Endemic Mountains. Endemic Coast. Endemic Santa Regina Gorge
Polygalaceae <i>Polygala nicaeensis</i> subsp. <i>corsica</i> <i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	Milkwort Family Corsican Milkwort Common Milkwort	Occasional Foret d'Aitone
Polygonaceae <i>Rumex acetosella</i> <i>Rumex sanguineus</i>	Dock Family Sheep's Sorrell Wood Dock	Common Foret d'Aitone
Primulaceae <i>Cyclamen hederifolium</i>	Primrose Family Sowbread	Locally common

Pyrolaceae	Wintergreen Family	
<i>Pyrola minor</i>	Lesser Wintergreen	Foret d'Aitone
Ranunculaceae	Buttercup Family	
<i>Aquilegia dumeticola</i>	Columbine	Foret d'Aitone. Restonica
<i>Clematis flammula</i>	Fragrant Clematis	Maquis. Common
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Old Man's Beard	Common
<i>Helleborus argutifolius</i>	Corsican Hellebore	Common. Endemic
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	Lesser Spearwort	Foret d'Aitone
<i>Ranunculus lanuginosus</i>		Frequent
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	Common
Rosaceae	Rose Family	
<i>Alchemilla alpina</i> forma <i>corsica</i>	Alpine Lady's Mantle	Restonica. Endemic form
<i>Amelanchier ovalis</i> var. <i>rhamnoides</i>	Snowy Mespilus	Mountain rocks. Endemic
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	Common
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild Strawberry	Frequent
<i>Potentilla crassinervia</i>		Rocks. Lac de Melo. Endemic
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Creeping Cinquefoil	Frequent
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	Common
<i>Pyrus amygdaliformis</i>	Almond-leaved Pear	Occasional. Maquis
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose	Venaco
<i>Rosa sempervirens</i>		Frequent
<i>Rosa serafinii</i>		Col Verghio.
<i>Rubus ulmifolius</i>	Bramble	Common
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	Salad Burnet	Common
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i> subsp. <i>praemorsa</i>	Rowan	Restonica. Endemic
<i>Sorbus domestica</i>	Wild Service Tree	Occasional. Spelunca
Rubiaceae	Bedstraw Family	
<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Crosswort	Frequent
<i>Galium rotundifolium</i>		Spelunca
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Wild Madder	Spelunca
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Field Madder	Frequent
Salicaceae	Willow Family	
<i>Populus alba</i>	White Poplar	Frequent
<i>Populus nigra</i>	Black poplar	Frequent
<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen	Occasional
Santalaceae	Sandalwood Family	
<i>Osyris alba</i>	Osyris	Maquis. Red berries
Saxifragaceae	Saxifrage Family	
<i>Saxifraga pedemontana</i> subsp. <i>cervicornis</i>	Piedmont saxifrage	Shaded mountain rocks. Endemic
<i>Saxifraga rotundifolia</i>	Round-leaved Saxifrage	Shaded damp rocks
<i>Saxifraga stellaris</i> subsp. <i>alpigena</i>	Starry Saxifrage	Wet mountain rocks. Restonica
Scrophulariaceae	Figwort Family	
<i>Cymbalaria aequitriloba</i>	A Toadflax	Occasional. Endemic
<i>Cymbalaria hepaticifolia</i>	A Toadflax	Occasional. Endemic
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i> var. <i>gyspergerae</i>	Foxglove	Widespread. Endemic variety
<i>Euphrasia nana</i>	An Eyebright	Lac de Melo. Endemic
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	Common Toadflax	Roadsides
<i>Odontites lutea</i>	Yellow Odontites	Locally common. Maquis
<i>Odontites verna</i>	Red Bartsia	Spelunca. Venaco
<i>Scrophularia canina</i>	French Figwort	Rocky slopes. Occasional
<i>Verbascum conocarpum</i>		Occasional. Maquis. Endemic

<i>Verbascum rotundifolium</i>		Rocky places. Occasional
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	Mullein	Occasional
<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	Wavy-leaved Mullein	Restonica. Vecchio valley
<i>Veronica officinalis</i>	Common Speedwell	Foret d'Aitone

Simaroubaceae*Ailanthus altissima***Tree of Heaven Family**

Tree of Heaven

Widespread. Alien

Solanaceae*Atropa bella-donna**Datura stramonium**Nicotiana glauca**Solanum nigrum***Potato Family**

Deadly Nightshade

Thornapple

Shrub Tobacco

Black Nightshade

Vizzavona

Alien weed

Casual alien. Roadsides

Waste ground

Tamaricaceae*Tamarix gallica***Tamarisk Family**

A Tamarisk

Near coasts

Thymelaeaceae*Daphne gnidium***Daphne Family**

Widespread in maquis

Tiliaceae*Tilia platyphyllos**Tilia cordata***Lime Family**

Broad-leaved Lime

Planted

Occasional

Ulmaceae*Celtis australis***Elm Family**

Nettle Tree

Planted

Urticaceae*Parietaria judaica**Urtica atrovirens**Urtica dioica***Nettle Family**

Pellitory-of-the-Wall

A Nettle

Nettle

frequent

Endemic. Verghello

Waste places

Valerianaceae*Valeriana rotundifolia***Valerian Family**

Restonica. Endemic

Verbenaceae*Verbena officinalis***Vervain Family**

Vervain

Roadsides. Verghello

Violaceae*Viola corsica**Viola biflora**Viola riviniana***Violet Family**

Corsican Violet

Two-flowered Violet

Common Dog Violet

Restonica. Endemic

Shaded wet places

Frequent. Wet places

Vitaceae*Vitis vinifera***Vine Family**

Common Vine

Spelunca

Zygophyllaceae*Tribulus terrestris***Caltrop Family**

Maltese Cross

Waste places

MONOCOTYLEDONS**Agavaceae***Agave americana***Agave Family**

Century Plant

Planted

Amaryllidaceae*Acis rosea***Daffodil Family**

Pink Snowflake

Calanche de Piana. Endemic

Araceae*Arisarum vulgare**Arum italicum***Arum Family**

Friars Cow

Italian Arum

Shaded maquis

Near habitation

Cyperaceae*Carex pendula***Sedge Family**

Pendulous Sedge

Foret d'Aitone

Iridaceae <i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Iris Family Flag Iris	Locally common
Liliaceae <i>Allium parviflorum</i> <i>Allium schoenoprasum</i> <i>Asparagus acutifolius</i> <i>Asphodelus aestivus</i> <i>Colchicum neapolitanum</i> <i>Muscari comosum</i> <i>Nartheicum reverchonii</i>	Lily Family Chives Common Asphodel Tassel Hyacinth Corsican Bog Asphodel	Rocky places. Endemic Frequent. Mountains Frequent in maquis Rocky places. Common Foret d'Aitone. Verghello and Vecchio valleys Rocky places. Frequent Streamsides in mountains. Endemic Spelunca Locally common Common in maquis
<i>Ruscus aculeatus</i> <i>Scilla autumnalis</i> <i>Smilax aspera</i>	Butcher's Broom Autumn Squill Smilax	Spelunca Locally common Common in maquis
Orchidaceae	Orchid Family	
<i>Spiranthes spiralis</i>	Autumn Lady's Tresses	Verghello Valley
Poaceae <i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i> subsp. <i>sardoum</i> <i>Arundo donax</i> <i>Briza media</i> <i>Calamagrostis varia</i> subsp. <i>corsica</i> <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> <i>Deschampsia flexuosa</i> <i>Lagurus ovatus</i> <i>Melica nutans</i> <i>Nardus stricta</i> <i>Phragmites australis</i>	Grass Family Giant Reed Quaking Grass Bermuda Grass Wavy Hair Grass Hare's Tail Grass Mat grass Reed	Mountain rocks. Endemic Wet places. Lowland Common By torrents. Occasional Endemic Cultivated places Mountain rocks Common Occasional in shade Common in mountains Common by water
Posidoniaceae <i>Posidonia oceanica</i>	Posidonia Family Neptune Grass	Sub-marine

Birds

Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>
Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrines</i>
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>
Audouin's Gull	<i>Ichthyaetus audouinii</i>
Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>
Common Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>
European Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>

Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>
Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>
Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>
Wood Lark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbica</i>
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>
Marmora's Warbler	<i>Sylvia sarda</i>
Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>
Common Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>
Corsican Nuthatch	<i>Sitta whiteheadi</i>
Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>
Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>
European Stonechat	<i>Saxicola rubicola</i>
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>
White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>
Italian Sparrow	<i>Passer italiae</i>
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>
Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>
European Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>
Corsican Finch	<i>Carduelis Corsicana</i>
Common Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>
Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>
Hawfinch	<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>
Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>

Mammals

Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>
Beech Marten(scats)	<i>Martes foina</i>
Bank Vole	<i>Clethrionomys glareolus</i>

Reptiles

Bedriaga's Rock Lizard
 Tyrrhenian Wall Lizard
 Italian Wall Lizard
 Stripe-necked Terrapin

Archaeolacerta bedriagae
Podarchis tiliguerta
Podarcis sicula
Mauremys caspica

Butterflies

Swallowtail
 Large White
 Small White
 Clouded Yellow
 Brimstone
 Cleopatra
 Small Copper
 Holly Blue
 Common Blue
 Two-tailed Pasha
 Southern White Admiral
 Red Admiral
 Painted Lady
 Comma
 Cardinal
 Queen of Spain Fritillary
 Southern Speckled Wood
 Corsican Wall Brown
 Corsican Heath
 Small Heath
 Meadow Brown
 Great Banded Grayling
 Southern Grayling

Papilio machaon
Pieris brassicae
Artogeia rapae
Colias crocea
Gonepteryx rhamni
Gonepteryx cleopatra
Lycaena phlaeas
Celastrina argeolus
Polyommatus icarus
Charaxes jasius
Limenitis reducta
Vanessa atalanta
Vanessa cardui
Polygonia c-album
Pandoriana pandora
Issoria lathonia
Pararge aegeria aegeria
Lasiommata megera f. paramegera
Coenonympha corinna
Coenonympha pamphilus
Maniola jurtina
Brintesia circe
Hipparchia aristaeus

Moths

Hummingbird Hawk Moth
 Pine Processionary Moth
 Dark Arches

Macroglossum stellatarum
Thaumetopoea pityocampa
Apamea monoglypha

Dragonflies

Southern Hawker
 Lesser Emperor
 Common Darter
 Scarlet Darter
 Beautiful Demoiselle
 Island blue-tailed Damselfly

Aeshna cyanea
Anax parthenope
Sympetrum striolatum
Crocothemis erythraea
Calopteryx virgo
Ischnura genei (endemic)

Other Invertebrates

Red-flash Grasshopper

Oedipoda germanica

Blue-flash Grasshopper
Migratory Locust
Egyptian Grasshopper
Nosed Grasshopper
Praying Mantis
Shield Bug
Fire Bug
Hornet
Carpenter Bee
Devil's Coach-horse
Dung Beetle

Oedipoda caerulea
Locusta migratoria
Anacridium aegyptium
Acrida hungarica
Mantis religiosa
Eurydema ornatum
Pyrrhocoris apterus
Vespa crabro
Xylocopa violacea
Staphylinus olens
Scarabaeus laticollis