

# Spring Birding in Sicily

Naturetrek Tour Report

2 - 8 May 2012



Barbary Nut



Mount Etna



Nine-spotted Moth



Penduline Tit

Report compiled by Jessica Turner  
Images by Jessica Turner and Stuart Elsom



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## Day 1

Wednesday 2nd May

Fine and warm

The group members met Jessica at Catania Airport after the flight from the UK. As Stuart was arriving on a later flight, three of the group travelled to the Pozzo with Salvatore. The rest of us loaded our luggage into the bus, and soon joined the south-bound A18 towards Sircusa. After about an hour we reached the Pozzo di Mazza, our base for the week.

Having settled into our rooms, we had a light supper of paninis and local red wine, while Jessica outlined the plans for the week. We then retired to bed, as two Scops Owls competed against each other in the orchard, although we could not see them. The mournful cry of Stone Curlew was also heard above the churring of the Bush Crickets.

## Day 2

Thursday 3rd May

Fine and sunny

The day started with a bird walk around the Pozza. Tree Sparrows mingled with a few Italian Sparrows on the roofs, while Sardinian Warblers gave their scratchy song from the bushes, and Crested Larks sang in the fields. Spotless Starlings were noticed, with their smart, glossy plumage often having a green sheen. A walk down the lane revealed Wood Warbler, Melodious warbler and Spotted Flycatcher in the oak trees, and a Common Whitethroat was heard. We repaired to the Pozza for breakfast al fresco, in the morning sun, as a pair of Swallows flew in and out of the lounge area.

After breakfast, we drove the short distance to the headland of Capo Murro di Porco, and set out to walk to the lighthouse. A Lesser Kestrel and Honey Buzzard were soon spotted.

We also became familiar with some of the Mediterranean plant species, especially those characteristic of this spiny coastal heath. Dwarf Fan Palms (*Chamaerops humilis*), the yellow Umbellifer, Thapsia (*Thapsia garganica*), Lentisk (*Lentiscus pistacea*), the spiny, chicken-wire plant, Thorny Burnet (*Sarcopoterium spinosum*), and Spiny Broom (*Calicotome spinosa*) provided most of the height. In between the clumps, we found Spiny Chicory, with its azure flowers, the cerise Byzantine Gladiolus (*Gladiolus byzantium*), the robust, golden, thistle-like Spanish Oyster Plant (both *Scolymus hispanicus* and *Scolymus grandiflorus*), and the enormous ‘dandelion clocks’ of a Goat’s-beard (*Tragopogon porrifolius*). Splashes of purple and white were provided by the ‘everlasting’ flowers of Winged Sea Lavender (*Limonium (Statice) sinuatum*).

When we reached the lighthouse, a sea-watch revealed three Sandwich Terns, five Yelkouan Shearwaters and a Scopoli’s Shearwater, while some of the group saw the fin of the enormous Ocean Sunfish (which is the largest bony fish, with an average weight of 1,000kg). A party of four Greater Short-toed Larks were seen, then a Lanner flew past, giving excellent views. As well as White Wagtail, the Italian Ashy-headed Wagtail was noted.

We made our way north through the scrubby vegetation, noting the diminutive Common and Lesser Centaury (*Centaureum erythraea* and *Centaureum pulchellum*), Yellow-wort (*Blackstonia perfoliata*), the two yellow flaxes *Linum strictum*, *subsp. strictum*, with clusters of flowers, and *Linum trigynum*, with solitary flowers. There was also the blue form of Scarlet Pimpernel (*Anagallis arvensis subsp. foemina*). Few butterflies were visible, because of the wind, but Large and Small White, Meadow Brown, Small Skipper, Painted Lady, and a Fritillary which was probably a dark-winged female Spotted Fritillary, were noted. As we made our way back to the buses, Bee Eaters were heard, and a flock of ten landed on overhead lines, giving excellent views.

After such a good start to the day, we made our way to Isole, where we had our picnic overlooking the sea, near Bar Pepe. After an excellent lunch of local produce, we drove to the Saline di Siracusa. Here we walked along the track overlooking the reedbeds (mainly consisting of the Giant Reed, *Arundo donax*) and pools, before dropping down to the sea. Coot and Dabchick were seen on the pools, while Grey Heron, Little Egret, Black-winged Stilt, a pair of Kentish Plover, and Dunlin were among the other avifauna. A colony of Little Terns made their presence felt, and an Osprey flew over the bay, before returning to a telegraph pole to watch the world go by. By the track we found a couple of the little iris, Barbary Nut (*Moraea sisyrinchium*) in flower, as they only do so in the afternoon, while an Eastern Dappled White fed on the Thapsia.

Our next stop was a flooded meadow behind the Saline di Ciane. Here we quickly located two Squacco Herons, one giving excellent views, while a Cattle Egret tried to perch on overhead lines. A pair of Wood Sandpipers was seen, again with one being very confiding, while Pool Frogs were croaking, and Cetti’s Warbler gave its explosive call. Celery-leaved Buttercup (*Ranunculus scleratus*) and *Lythrum junceum*, a form of Purple Loosestrife edged the marsh. We then walked across the road, and down a path by the River Anapo, to emerge opposite where we had been earlier at the Salines. A male Golden Oriole flew into a tree across the river, but unfortunately failed to reappear, and a Marsh Harrier was seen hunting over the reeds.

After a full day, we returned to the Pozzo, with time to relax or swim, before an excellent dinner. Afterwards the moth trap was set up for the night.

## Day 3

Friday 4th May

Fine, hot and sunny

This morning we looked at the moth trap, finding amongst other species Bright Line Brown Eye, Delicate, White-speck and Ruby Tiger. Some of the group relocated the Wood Warbler, and a *Convolvulus* Hawkmoth was seen feeding on lemon blossom.

After breakfast, we visited the Archaeological Park, spending time at the very impressive Greek and Roman Theatres and the 'Ear of Dionysius'. New birds included Olivaceous Warbler, Pied Flycatcher, Greenfinch and Jackdaw. From here we drove inland, past Canicattini, to the Cavagrande del Cassibile, a spectacular limestone gorge, with the River Cassibile flowing through it. We rounded the top of the gorge and came south east, stopping for a fleeting glimpse of a Woodchat Shrike on a wire, and another stop for Common Buzzard, Scarce Swallowtail, *Allium subhirsutum*, with its umbel of white starry flowers, and a Ploughshare Tongue Orchid (*Serapias vomeracea*).

At the viewpoint, we had our picnic in the shade of the cafe which was, unfortunately, closed for the day. A male Blue Rock Thrush was singing from the cliff face, and afforded some good views, but we failed to locate Rock Sparrow. House Martins were abundant, and Common Kestrel, Common Buzzard and Stonechat were noted. We set out to walk along the edge of the gorge, and in the first meadow we found the little blue iris, Barbary Nut (*Moraea sisyriinchium*) in some abundance, together with Common Star of Bethlehem (*Ornithogalum angustifolium*). The evidence of a week's hot weather was clear, but we found *Ophrys biancae*, *Ophrys oxyrhynchos*, Yellow Bee Orchid (*Ophrys lutea*) and a clump of Mirror Orchids (*Ophrys ciliata*) which were over. There were also three species of Tongue Orchids: *Serapias vomeracea*, *Serapias orientalis*, and *Serapias parviflora*

We walked down a track into a scrubby meadow, and very quickly Spectacled Warbler was heard. Two displaying males and a female gave excellent views: a special bird for this area. A large raptor on the skyline above us was thought to be Bonelli's Eagle, but disappeared from view before plumage details could be noted. However, everyone had superb views of Cirl Bunting, sitting at the top of a bush, singing loudly. We walked to the top of the hill, enjoying the stunning 360 degree view, and hearing another pair of Spectacled Warbler. Amongst the plants on the bare ground were Ground-pine (*Ajuga chamaepitys*) and the tiny Evax (*Evax pygmaea*). On the hillside we also found some very fresh Yellow Bee Orchids (*Ophrys lutea*), and another, fresh, *Ophrys biancae*. As we walked back to the bus, the latter half of the group also saw Red-rumped Swallow. We left the gorge, descending the road of hair-pin bends, which gave great views, and stopped for 'gelati' in Cassibile, to round off a great day

## Day 4

Saturday 5th May

Hot and sunny

Another fine day saw some of the group checking out the birds in the local Oak trees and Lemon groves. Melodious Warbler and three Wood Warblers were found, along with Spotted and Pied Flycatchers. A little further on, a Hoopoe flew across the field, and then back again, giving good views.

After breakfast, with Stuart having bought the bread, we set out north for the Penisola di Magnisi, which sticks out in the middle of the Golfo di Augusta, north of Siracusa. This small outcrop can be a magnet for migrants in the trees on the edge, but today all was quiet, apart from Garden Warbler which was giving a subsong from a Fig tree by the buildings. Three Winchats were seen on a fence. We walked up the track and across towards a barn. Soon Calandra Larks were being heard, and three singing males were seen, with their flappy flight, black underwings and black throat patches. The Osprey we had seen at the Saline di Siracusa flew past (we recognised its tatty wings!), and later a Marsh Harrier flew in and landed on a fence post, barely visible in the heat haze. Clouded Yellow, Eastern Dappled White and Meadow Brown butterflies were on the wing.

We retraced our steps, and then took the track towards Thapsos, the Bronze Age settlement and necropolis. We had excellent views of Whinchat and two Pallid Swifts flew very low round us, enabling us to see the differences from Common Swift. On the way back, a Praying Mantis (a male *Ameles spollanzaniana*) was found and photographed. We then returned to Priolo Gargallo to visit a bar for refreshments, before having our picnic by the sea, glad of the cooling breeze. Little Terns were fishing in the bay.

In the afternoon we visited the Saline di Priolo, where we had good views of ten Ferruginous Duck, a special species for the area. Speckled Wood butterflies were flying in the shady areas, and on the way back we saw an Egyptian Grasshopper, and some of the group saw a Western Whip Snake cross the path in front of them. This snake is black in Sicily, lacking the markings found on specimens on the mainland. Some of the group expressed a wish to visit Ortiga, the historic island centre of Siracusa, so one group had time to explore there, while others returned to the Pozzo to swim or relax. After supper, the moth trap was set up again in the orchard although, as it was a full 'supermoon', expectations of a good catch were not high. Scops Owls continued to call close by, but eluded being seen, and Serotine Bats were seen round the lights.

## Day 5

Sunday 6th May

### Very hot and sunny

This morning, the moth trap yielded two fine specimens of Cream Spot Tiger, along with Bright Line Brown Eye, Pale Mottled Willow, and several other Macro and Micro species. After another breakfast in the sun, we headed south, to explore the lakes and coast of the south eastern tip of the island. Unfortunately our route was barred in Mazameni by a cycle race, which required a diversion, but Brian soon found a good alternative way to our first stop at Pantano Morghella. As we scanned the lake, we saw Black-winged Stilt and a distant pair of Avocets. A Hoopoe flew across, giving good views and following the route observed the previous week, presumably between the nest and the preferred feeding area. Several Whinchats were sitting up on branches, while a Sicilian Wall Lizard was basking on a rock. Butterflies included Clouded Yellow, and Small Skipper, and a Common Darter Dragonfly was noted.

After a while we moved on, via a refreshment stop in Pachino, to Pantano Cuba. This lake is surrounded by a dense reedbed (Common Reed, *Phragmites australis*, and Giant Reed, *Arundo donax*). This is a breeding site for the elusive Purple Swamp Hen, or Purple Gallinule, which we heard calling, and Stuart glimpsed very briefly. We also heard, but did not see, Great Reed Warbler and, as ever, Cetti's Warbler. As we were extricating ourselves from the narrow access track, Elizabeth reported Bee Orchids (*Ophrys apifera*).

We drove the short distance to the next lake, Pantano Longarini, where we had our picnic on a little bridge, to the accompaniment of a symphony of natural sounds including Reed Warbler, Swallow and Italian Hybrid Frog. Here, Garganey, Wigeon, Teal, Pochard and Ferruginous Duck were early finds, along with Great White and Little Egrets. A pair of Marsh Harriers was hunting over the reeds, and a Water Rail was heard. As we walked along the road, we were glad of patches of shade afforded by the Giant Reeds. Four Greater Flamingos were recorded, but the shimmer of the heat haze meant they could not be seen clearly. A solitary bird, further out, was more easily observed, as was a Slender-billed Gull.

Along the road we saw a Swallowtail butterfly, a female Velvet Ant, and a curious small structure of bits of vegetation, about 2cm long which was progressing slowly across the tarmac. This, we established, was a Bagworm, the caterpillar of a moth (family *Psychidae* – there are 55 species in Italy), which makes a Caddis-fly type case out of vegetation to protect itself. This one was probably looking for a suitable place to pupate. A short visit to the nearby beach yielded only jet-skiers rather than waders, but Bee Eaters were heard, and were seen sitting on a wire.

We stopped at the causeway where the outflow river from P. Longarini joins the sea, and had excellent views of the Bee Eaters, along with nesting Black-winged Stilt and a pair of Night Heron. Two Marsh Harriers were seen again over P. Longarini, possibly those which had been recorded earlier. Our final location was the fishing port of Portopalo, where we recorded three Kentish Plovers on the beach, a distant Scopoli's Shearwater from the harbour wall, and an excellent *gelateria!*

## Day 6

Monday 7th May

Cooler with cloud; very windy on Etna

Today our destination was Mount Etna, the active volcano that dominates the eastern side of Sicily. As it was a long journey, we had our breakfast at 7 o'clock, but were amazed to be joined by a Honey Buzzard which swooped down, virtually landing in the bush adjacent to the breakfast table. I'm not sure who was most surprised: the group, the Honey Buzzard, or the Tree Sparrows which were flitting between the bush and the roof!

We were on the road by 7.45, heading north up the autostrada. On the outskirts of Catania, we noted a White Stork on its nest, atop a pylon, and another was seen further away. We left the motorway and started climbing through the towns on the lower slopes, busy with morning traffic. As we got clear of the conurbation, the landscape began to change, and we could see lava, some of which dated from the 2002/3 eruption, and only bore pioneer plants such as the lichen *Stereocaulon versuvianum*, Etna Sorrel (*Rumex scutatus* subsp. *aetnensis*), Red Valerian (*Centranthus ruber*) and trees of Etna Broom (*Genista aetnensis*). The road climbs through a series of hairpin bends to the Rifugio Sapienza, at 1900m. Just below this we stopped in a bare, rocky area, likely for Sicilian Rock Partridge, but there was no sign of this elusive species. However, two Rock Bunting were seen feeding on a snow patch, and a male Black Redstart was singing from a rock, while a Common Buzzard sunned itself on the skyline. A Lanner Falcon and a very high Red-footed Falcon were seen overhead. The sides of the road were covered with a thick layer of volcanic ash from the recent eruptions.

We continued to the Rifugio, noting the lower temperature and thinner air compared with sea level. There was only a short queue for tickets, and soon we were in the Funivia, climbing gently to the Piccolo Rifugio at 2500m. From here, we transferred to the 4-wheel drive buses, and bumped our way through enormous banks of permanent snow and ice, striated with layers of ash. The views were stark but stunning. We reached the destination at 2900m and got out, but realised how strong and cold the wind was! Glad of all our layers, we walked to the fissure which opened up in 2002/3, erupting over a 3 month period. Although steam comes out of it, it is now plugged by cold lava, and won't erupt there again. The recent volcanic eruptions have been on the south east side, forming a new crater there. However, we could feel the warmth of the lava, and one only had to scrape down a few inches for the rock to be too hot to touch comfortably. The strong wind was blowing lava grit and dust everywhere, so after we had taken photos of the summit cone, the fissure and taken in the amazing surroundings, we returned to the Piccolo Rifugio for hot coffee, before returning to the buses. From the cable car, some of the group saw a Wheatear, and a small clump of the purple Etna Pansy (*Viola aethnensis*).

We drove down the mountain a little way for our picnic, taking a side road and parking near the Observatory. Here we were out of the wind, and soon warmed up. It was very peaceful, and alive with birds. Several of the Sicilian race of Coal Tit were seen, along with Cuckoo, Subalpine Warbler and Woodlark, the latter delighting us with its musical song. Firecrest was heard, but remained elusive. On the ground were Etna Tansy (*Tanacetum siculum*), the Cinquefoil *Potentilla calabria*, neither yet in flower, and Juniper (*Juniperus communis subsp. hemisphaericum*) covered in a thick layer of volcanic ash. The tents of the Pine Processionary Moth could be seen in the Corsican Pine trees (*Pinus nigra subsp laricio*).

Eventually we moved on, taking the minor road down Mount Etna, going through mature stands of Corsican Pine and other open rocky area. We stopped for excellent views of Coal Tit and Rock Bunting, but failed to locate Crossbills. Elizabeth spotted some orchids from the bus, so some of the group went to investigate, discovering several specimens of Elder-flowered Orchid (*Dactylorhiza sambucina*) in shades of magenta and yellow. Meanwhile Stuart played the call of the Sicilian Rock Partridge, and was rewarded by a response from down the slope, although the bird was not visible. Also a male Rock Sparrow was seen on a nearby boulder. As we descended, the vegetation changed from Corsican Pine (*Pinus nigra subsp laricio*) to Sweet Chestnut (*Castanea sativa*) and Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), and also became more advanced, so that Yellow Asphodel (*Asphodeline lutea*) which was barely in bud at the lunch spot, was fully out further down. We were soon back in the Mediterranean zone of Siracusa, where we stopped at a fruit stall and then the supermarket for the picnic and for presents, before returning to the Pozzo after a long but satisfying day.

## Day 7

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May

### Hot and sunny, but windy

This was our final day, but with an evening flight, we were able to enjoy further outings. Before breakfast, Stuart took some group members to the headland Capo Murro di Porco, which we had visited on the first day. Excellent views were had of Wood Warbler, along with Willow Warbler while, out to sea, three Scopoli's Shearwaters were seen well. Other group members visited the Oak trees near the Pozzo, and enjoyed the Wood Warblers there.

Today, some of the group opted for a quiet morning, prior to travelling. After breakfast and time to pack and sort out, the rest of us left for the Oasi Faunistica di Vendicari, a coastal and wetland reserve south of Siracusa. As we got out, we could hear Turtle Dove, and had superb views of one sitting in an Orange tree in the car park. Blackcap and Cetti's Warbler were heard and a Cleopatra butterfly was seen. From the first hide, looking north, we saw Squacco Heron, Caspian Tern and Little Tern, Cormorant and Shelduck, as well as Black-winged Stilt, Little Egret, two Great Egrets and Pochard (and the ever-present Coot). Leaving the hide, we saw a Penduline Tit's nest suspended from a branch in a Poplar tree by the next hide. This had been noted the previous week, probably as an old nest. This week, however, a new nest was being constructed on a lower branch, and we were able to watch the male taking material from the old nest to incorporate into the new. Sitting on the wall by the second hide, we had excellent views and some good photos were achieved. From the hide, we saw the Squacco Heron again, with six Black-winged Stilts, and a female Marsh Harrier hunting over the reed bed.

We then moved on, following the path to the sea. Reed Warblers and Cetti's Warblers were calling loudly, but did not show themselves. We came across another Penduline Tit's nest, swaying madly in the wind, with the male still involved in the construction, and again had good views of this tiny bird. From the beach we could see the disused tuna fishery, and the tower built in the C13 tower built by Peter of Aragon. We walked south along the edge of the sand dunes, noting the activity of brown and cream spotted Tiger Beetles on the sandy path. We soon reached another hide, overlooking the Pantano Roveto. Here we saw four Great Egrets, seven Grey Heron, six Little Egrets, a Greater Flamingo, and two Spoonbills, busily feeding. Amongst the smaller waders were Avocet, Curlew, Oystercatcher, Ringed Plover and Dunlin. A highlight was a flock of some 24 Curlew Sandpipers, with some showing their beautiful russet breeding plumage. Little Terns were feeding, their dives sometimes being confused with fish jumping from the water.

Outside the hide, a Melodious Warbler was singing in the bushes. At this point, Jessica, Anne and Sue returned to the buses to prepare the lunch. As they went, a Hoopoe flew up the path towards them and overhead. The others went further on, to a screen viewpoint, from where they saw seven Little Stints, on the edge of the pool. Next to the path were many black and white caterpillars, feeding on Sea Daffodil (*Pancratium maritimum*). These were found to be Kew Arches (so named because some turned up at Kew in 1933), a moth found round the Mediterranean coast on this foodplant.

We reconvened for our picnic, eaten in the shade of Orange trees or the Giant Reeds, serenaded by the Turtle Doves around us, and joined by Cleopatra and Speckled Wood butterflies. Having tidied up, it was time to head north, but our journey home was broken by a last *gelato* in Cassibile. We then had to do our final packing, before heading for the airport, noting en route three White Stork's nests, and the female incubating on the nearest one, while the male stood guard. At the airport, we said goodbye to Stuart, Brian and Sue, who were staying on, and checked in for our flight to Gatwick, and onwards home.

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## Species Lists

Birds (H = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	May						
			2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>					6		5
2	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>		2			4		2
3	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>					1		
4	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>					1		
5	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>					5♂		
6	Pochard	<i>Anas ferina</i>					3		1
7	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>				10	8		
8	Sicilian Rock Partridge	<i>Alectoris graeca whitakeri</i>						H	
9	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>		1					
10	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		1		2	6		2
11	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>				2	✓		
12	Scopoli's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris diomedea diomedea</i>		1			1		3
13	Yelkouan Shearwater	<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i>		5					
14	Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>							1
15	Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>					2		
16	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>		1		1	2		
17	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>		2					2
18	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		5		2	10	1	7
19	Great Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>					3	6	
20	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		2		H	1		7
21	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>						3	4
22	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>							2
23	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>					5		1
24	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>		2	3	2	2	2	
25	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>		1					
26	Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>						1	
27	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>							
28	Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>			1				
29	Lanner	<i>Falco biarmicus feldeggii</i>		1				1	
30	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>		1		1			
31	Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>			1?				
32	Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>		1	1	1	4		1
33	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>			4	1	1	7	
34	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>		4		1		1	
35	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>						1	
36	Water Rail	<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>					H		
37	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		H			1		
38	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>		✓		c20	✓	2	
39	Purple Swamp-hen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>					H		
40	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>							2
41	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>					2		2
42	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		4		2	7		10
43	Stone Curlew	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>	H						
44	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>				1			
45	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>							✓
46	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>		2			3		

	Common name	Scientific name	May						
			2	3	4	5	6	7	8
47	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>		1					
48	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>		2					✓
49	Curlwing Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>							24
50	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>							L
51	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>							7
52	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>		2		1	H		
53	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>		1		1	1		4
54	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		2					
55	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>							6
56	Slender-billed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus genei</i>					2		
57	Yellow-legged Gull	<i>Larus michahellis</i>		8		10	✓		✓
58	Little Gull	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>		2					
59	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>		20+		✓	3		✓
60	Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>		3					
61	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>							1
62	Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
63	Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
64	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
65	European Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>							✓
66	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>						3	
67	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>		HL					
68	Eurasian Scops Owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
69	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
70	Pallid Swift	<i>Apus pallidus</i>				2			
71	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>				1	1		1
72	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>					H		
73	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>		12	3	H	22	H	2
74	Great-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>						1	
75	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
76	Woodlark	<i>Lullula arborea</i>						2	
77	Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla</i>		4					
78	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra</i>				6			
79	Common Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>		15		4			
80	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
81	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>		L	1				
82	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>		✓	✓		✓		✓
83	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>			1?				
84	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba alba</i>		1					
85	Blue-headed Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava sp.</i>		1		2			
86	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>						1	
87	European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>			1			2	
88	Common Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>			H				
89	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>						1	
90	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>						3	
91	Whinchat	<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>				5	6		
92	Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>			✓			2	
93	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		1	✓	✓	2	1	
94	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>			1				
95	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>				2			
96	Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>						1	

	Common name	Scientific name	May						
			2	3	4	5	6	7	8
97	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>		1					
98	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Sylvia melanocephala</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
99	Spectacled Warbler	<i>Sylvia conspicillata</i>			5				
100	Eastern Subalpine Warbler	<i>Sylvia cantillans albistriata</i>						1	
101	Dartford Warbler	<i>Sylvia undata</i>			[2]				
102	Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>			1				
103	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
104	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>		H	H	H	H	H	H
105	European Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>		H			6		H
106	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>					H		
107	Melodious Warbler	<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>		1		1			1
108	Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Hippolais pallida</i>			1				
109	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>							1
110	Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>		2	3	3	4		1
111	Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>						1	
112	Firecrest	<i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>						2H	
113	Winter Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		H	H			1	
114	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>		1	3	6			2
115	Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>			1	1			
116	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>		3	2	2	3	2	
117	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>						10	
118	European Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>			2			H	
119	Eurasian Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz pendulinus</i>							2
120	Woodchat Shrike	<i>Lanius senator</i>			1				
121	Common Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
122	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
123	Western Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>			1				
124	Hooded Crow	<i>Corvus cornix</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
125	Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>			2			1	
126	Spotless Starling	<i>Sturnus unicolor</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
127	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>		1					
128	Italian Sparrow	<i>Passer italiae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
129	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>		1					
130	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
131	Common Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>						1	
132	Common Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>			H			H	
133	Common Linnet	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>		✓	✓	2		✓	✓
134	European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
135	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>			1			H	
136	European Serin	<i>Serinus serinus</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
137	Cirl Bunting	<i>Emberiza cirlus</i>			3				
138	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>			2	3	6	H	3
139	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>						5	

## Butterflies

1	Swallowtail	<i>Papilio machaon</i>					✓		
2	Scarce Swallowtail	<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>			✓				
3	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Small White	<i>Artogeia rapae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Common name	Scientific name	May						
			2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5	Eastern Dappled White	<i>Euchloe ausonia</i>		✓		✓	✓		✓
6	Clouded Yellow	<i>Colias crocea</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	Cleopatra	<i>Gonepteryx cleopatra</i>			✓				✓
8	Small Copper	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>			✓				
9	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>			✓	✓	✓		✓
10	Painted lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>		✓	✓				✓
11	Spotted Fritillary	<i>Melitaea didyma meridionalis</i>		?					
12	Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓
13	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>			✓	✓	✓		
14	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>				✓			✓
15	Wall Brown	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>		✓					
16	Small Skipper	<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>		✓			✓		

## Marco Moths

1	Six-spot Burnet	<i>Zygaena filipendulae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
2	Dwarf Cream Wave	<i>Idaea fusconovosa</i>					1		
3	Cypress Carpet	<i>Thera cupressata</i>			1				
4	Convolvulus Hawkmoth	<i>Agrius convolvuli</i>			✓				
5	Pine Processionary (tent)	<i>Thaumetopoea pityocampa</i>						✓	
6	Cream-spot Tiger	<i>Arctia villica</i>					2		
7	Ruby Tiger	<i>Phragmatobia fuliginosa fuliginosa</i>			1				
8	A Nine-spotted	<i>Amata kruegeri</i>		✓	✓	✓			
10	Radford's Flame Shoulder	<i>Ochropleura leucogaster</i>			1				
11	Brown-line Bright-eye	<i>Mythimna conigera</i>			1		3		
12	Delicate	<i>Mythimna vitellina</i>			1				
13	White-speck	<i>Mythimna unipuncta</i>			1				
14	Vine's Rustic	<i>Hoplodrina ambigua</i>			1				
15	Pale Mottled Willow	<i>Paradrina clavipalpis</i>					1		
16	Scarce Bordered Straw	<i>Helicoverpa armigera</i>					1		
17	Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>			✓	✓			
18	Wainscot sp	-							
19	Kew Arches (caterpillars)	<i>Brithys crini</i>							✓
20	Bagworm sp (caterpillar)	-					✓		

## Micros Moths

1	Rush Veneer	<i>Nomophila noctuella</i>			✓		✓		
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## Other Invertebrates

	cf Mediterranean Bluet	<i>Coenagrion caerulescens</i>					✓		
	Emperor Dragonfly	<i>Anax imperator</i>		✓		✓	✓		
	Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>					✓		
		<b>Orthoptera</b>							
	Egyptian Grasshopper	<i>Anacridium aegypticum</i>							
	(Long pointed head)	<i>Acrida ungarica</i>							
		<b>Dictyoptera</b>							
	A Mantis	<i>Ameles spallanzania (male)</i>				✓			
		<b>Diptera</b>							
	Bee-fly	cf <i>Bombylius major</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		
		<b>Hymenoptera</b>							

	Common name	Scientific name	May						
			2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Velvet Ant (female)	<i>Mutilla europea</i>					✓		
	A v large Hoverfly	<i>Scolia flavifrons</i>			✓				
	Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa violacea</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
	White-tailed Bumblebee	<i>Bombus lucorum</i>			✓				✓
		<b>Coleoptera</b>							
	A Tiger Beetle	<i>cf Lophyridia littoralis nemoralis</i>							✓
	A Sexton Beetle	<i>Nicrophorus sp</i>				✓			
	Dor Beetle	<i>cf Geotrupes stercorarius</i>			✓	✓			
	Chafer	<i>Oxythyria funesta</i>				✓			
	Seven Spot Ladybird	<i>Coccinella 7-punctata</i>				✓			✓
	Leaf Beetle	<i>Phyllodecta vitellinae</i>					✓		
	Bloody-nosed Beetle	<i>Timarcha tenebricosa</i>			✓		✓	✓	✓
	Soldier Beetle	<i>Rhagonycha fulva</i>				✓			
		<b>Diplopoda</b>							
	A black Millipede	<i>Tachypodoiulus niger</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
		<b>Aranae</b>							
	Raft Spider	<i>Dolomedes fimbriatus</i>					✓		
		<b>Mollusca</b>							
	(Dark-lipped) Banded Snail	<i>Cepaea nemoralis</i>		✓		✓			

## Mammals

1	Serotine Bat	<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>				✓			
2	Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>							✓

## Fish

1	Ocean Sunfish	<i>Mola mola</i>		✓					
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## Amphibians & Reptiles

1	Italian Hybrid Frog	<i>Rana kl hispanica</i>		H		H	H		H
2	and/or Italian Pool Frog	<i>Rana bergeri</i>		H		H	H		H
3	Moorish Gecko	<i>Tarentola mauritanica</i>					L		
4	Italian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis sicula</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Sicilian Wall Lizard	<i>Podarcis wagleriana</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	Western Whip Snake (black form)	<i>Hierophis viridiflavus var carbonarius</i>				✓			
7	Grass Snake	<i>Natrix natrix</i>					skin		

## Plants

Scientific name                      Common name                      Location

### LOWER PLANTS

#### Lichens

*Stereocaulon vesuvianum*              Mount Vesuvius Lichen              Lava flows, Mt Etna

Scientific name	Common name	Location
<b>PTERIDOPHYTES</b>	<b>FERNS &amp; ALLIES</b>	
<b>Adiantaceae</b>	<b>Maidenhair Fern Family</b>	
<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair Fern	Archaeological Park, Siracusa, round the waterfall
<i>Anogramma leptophylla</i>	Jersey Fern	Lower slopes of Etna
<b>Aspleniaceae</b>	<b>Spleenwort Family</b>	
<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	Black Spleenwort	Lower slopes of Etna
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort	Archaeological Park, Siracusa
<i>Ceterach officinarum</i>	Rustyback	Archaeological Park, Siracusa
<b>Dennstaedtiaceae</b>	<b>Bracken family</b>	
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	Lower slopes of Etna
<b>Polypodiaceae</b>	<b>Polypody Family</b>	
<i>Polypodium cambricum</i>	Southern Polypody	On way to Cavagrande
<b>PINOPSIDA (GYMNOSPERMS)</b>	<b>CONIFERS</b>	
<b>Cupressaceae</b>	<b>Juniper Family</b>	
<i>Juniperus communis subsp. hemisphericum</i>	Juniper	Slopes of Etna
<i>Juniperus oxycedrus</i>	Prickly Juniper	Vendicari
<b>Pinaceae</b>	<b>Pine Family</b>	
<i>Pinus halepensis</i>	Aleppo Pine	Widespread
<i>Pinus pinea</i>	Umbrella Pine	Scattered
<i>Pinus nigra ssp. laricio</i>	Corsican Pine	Upper slopes of Etna
<b>MAGNOLIOPSIDA (ANGIOSPERMS)</b>	<b>FLOWERING PLANTS</b>	
<b>Magnoliidae (Dicotyledons)</b>		
<b>Acanthaceae</b>	<b>Bear's-breech Family</b>	
<i>Acanthus mollis</i>	Bear's-breech	Widespread
<b>Aizoaceae</b>	<b>Mesembryanthemum Family</b>	
<i>Carpobrotus acinaciformis</i>	Red Hottentot Fig	Saline di Siracusa
<b>Anacardiaceae</b>	<b>Sumach Family</b>	
<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>	Mastic Tree	Widespread and common shrub
<i>Pistachia terebinthus</i>	Terebinth	Scattered tree
<b>Apiaceae</b>	<b>Carrot Family</b>	
<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>	Rock Samphire	Vendicari
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot	Scattered
<i>Eryngium maritimum</i>	Sea Holly	Vendicari
<i>Ferula communis subsp. communis</i>	Giant Fennel	Widespread
<i>Ferulago nodosa</i>	Ferulago	Cavagrande; yellow umbellifer with swollen nodes
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Common Fennel	Scattered

Scientific name	Common name	Location
<i>Kundmannia sicula</i>	Kundmannia	Saline di Siracusa; yellow umbellifer
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's Needles	Scattered
<i>Seseli tortuosum</i>	-	Vendicari
<i>Smyrniololus satrum</i>	Alexanders	Etna
<i>Smyrniololus perfoliatum</i>	Perfoliate Alexanders	Cavagrande road
<i>Thapsia garganica</i>	Thapsia	Widespread - looks like Giant Fennel but not aromatic
<b>Apocynaceae</b>	<b>Periwinkle Family</b>	
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander	Widespread on roadsides
<i>Vinca major</i>	Greater Periwinkle	Nr Pozzo di Mazza
<b>Araliaceae</b>	<b>Ivy Family</b>	
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	Scattered
<b>Asteraceae</b>	<b>Daisy Family</b>	
<i>Anthemis chia</i>	A Mayweed	Widespread - the common daisy-like plant
<i>Bellis annua</i>	Annual Daisy	Cavagrande - a tiny daisy
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	Widespread
<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Field Marigold	Inland - a smaller version of below
<i>Calendula officinalis</i>	Pot Marigold	Inland - the garden plant
<i>Carlina corymbosa</i>	Flat-topped Carlina Thistle	Dead flower heads scattered
<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>	Red Star Thistle	? In bud, Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Centaurea napifolia</i>	Winged Knapweed	Bar Pepe lunchspot
<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>	Yellow-star Thistle	Scattered
<i>Cichorium spinosum</i>	Spiny Chichory	Capo Murro di Porco. Only on SE coasts of Sicily, and Spain
<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	Smooth Hawk's-beard	Locally common (yellow Dandelion-like flowers)
<i>Crepis species</i>	Unidentified Hawksbeards	Scattered
<i>Crupina crupinastrum</i>	Crupina	Capo Murro di Porco - like a delicate Hardhead
<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	Stink Aster	Widespread (and smelly!)
<i>Evax pygmaea</i>	Evax	Cavagrande, by the final viewpoint (tiny grey plant)
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Galactites	Widespread and abundant - the pale thistle
<i>Glebionis coronarium</i>	Crown Daisy	Widespread and abundant - the large golden daisy
<i>Glebionis segetum</i>	Corn Marigold	Cavagrande road
<i>Helichrysum italicum</i>	An Everlasting	Cavagrande
<i>Hyoseris radiata</i>	Hyoseris	Scattered - another dandelion-like plant
<i>Inula crithmoides</i>	Golden Samphire	Vendicari
<i>Notobasis syriaca</i>	Syrian Thistle	Scattered
<i>Pallenis spinosa</i>	Pallenis	Scattered - a pale yellow Composite with spiny bracts
<i>Scolymus grandiflorus</i>	A Spanish Oyster Plant	Widespread - the impressive yellow-flowered thistle
<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>	Spanish Oyster Plant	Scattered - similar to above, but no hairs on bracts
<i>Scorzonera deliciosa</i>	A Viper's-grass	Cavagrande (Pink 'dandelion' with thin leaves; sweet root)
<i>Senecio aethnensis**</i>	Etna Ragwort	Mid slopes of Etna, not in flower
<i>Senecio squalidus</i>	Rock (or Oxford) Ragwort	Lower slopes of Etna
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel	Widespread
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle	Widespread and abundant - the commonest large thistle
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Sow Thistle	Widespread
<i>Tanacetum siculum</i>	Etna Tansy	Slopes of Mt Etna
<i>Tragopogon porrifolius</i>	Goat's-beard	Scattered - the large 'dandelion clocks' (purple flower)
<i>Urospermum dalechampii</i>	Urospermum	Scattered - the pale yellow 'dandelion' with a black centre
<b>Berberidaceae</b>	<b>Barberry Family</b>	
<i>Berberis aetnensis</i>	Etna Barberry	Slopes of Mt Etna

Scientific name	Common name	Location
<b>Betulaceae</b>	<b>Birch Family</b>	
<i>Betula aetnensis</i>	Etna Birch	Slopes of Mt Etna (endemic)
<b>Boraginaceae</b>	<b>Borage Family</b>	
<i>Alkanna tinctoria</i>	Dyer's Bugloss	Cavagrande, near the orchids
<i>Anchusa hybrida</i>	An Anchusa	First stop to look at Etna
<i>Borago officinalis</i>	Borage	Widespread
<i>Cerintho majus</i>	Honeywort	Scattered eg Saline di Siracusa
<i>Cynoglossum creticum</i>	Cretan Hound's-tongue	Occasional
<i>Echium italicum</i>	Pale Bugloss	Scattered eg Saline di Siracusa - like tiny Christmas tree
<i>Echium parviflorum</i>	Small-flowered Viper's Bugloss	Scattered
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Purple Viper's-bugloss	Widespread
<b>Brassicaceae</b>	<b>Cabbage Family</b>	
<i>Biscutella didyma</i>	Biscutella	Fruit like two shields; widespread
<i>Biscutella lyrata</i>	a Biscutella	V similar to above; widespread
<i>Cakile maritima</i>	Sea Rocket	Coastal eg Vendicari
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's-purse	Scattered
<i>Erysimum bonannianum</i>	A Treacle-mustard	Slopes of Mt Etna (endemic)
<i>Isatis tinctoria subsp. canescens</i>	Woad	Roadsides, esp round Etna
<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	Sweet Alyssum	Scattered eg Saline di Siracusa (garden plant in UK)
<i>Matthiola sinuata</i>	Sea Stock	Coastal eg Vendicari
<i>Matthiola tricuspidata</i>	Three-horned Stock	Widespread on coast
<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	Wild radish	Scattered
<i>Sinapis arvensis</i>	Charlock	Widespread
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge Mustard	Roadsides
<b>Cactaceae</b>	<b>Cactus Family</b>	
<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i>	Prickly Pear	Widespread
<b>Caprifoliaceae</b>	<b>Honeysuckle Family</b>	
<i>Lonicera etrusca</i>	Etruscan Honeysuckle	Cavagrande, not yet in flower
<b>Caryophyllaceae</b>	<b>Pink Family</b>	
<i>Scleranthus aetnensis</i>	a Knawel	Upper slopes of Etna - a tiny plant (endemic)
<i>Silene bellidifolia</i>	A Catchfly	Vendicari; very hairy calices
<i>Silene colorata</i>	A Catchfly	Widespread and common; bright pink
<i>Silene gallica</i>	Small-flowered Catchfly	Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Silene latifolia</i>	White Campion	Lower slopes of Mt Etna
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common Chickweed	Scattered
<b>Chenopodiaceae</b>	<b>Goosefoot Family</b>	
<i>Arthrocnemum macrostachya</i>	Perennial Glasswort	Vendicari
<i>Atriplex patula</i>	Common Orache	Coastal habitats
<i>Beta vulgaris</i>	Sea Beet	Vendicari
<i>Halimione portulacoides</i>	Sea Purslane	Coastal habitats eg Capo Murro di Porco lighthouse
<i>Suaeda vera</i>	Shrubby Seablite	Coastal habitats eg Capo Murro di Porco lighthouse
<i>Salicornia europaea</i>	Glasswort	Vendicari
<b>Cistaceae</b>	<b>Rockrose Family</b>	



Scientific name	Common name	Location
<i>Cistus creticus</i>	Cretan Cistus	Cavagrande - pink flowers
<i>Cistus salvifolius</i>	Sage-leaved Cistus	Road to Cavagrande - white flowers
<b>Convolvulaceae</b>	<b>Bindweed Family</b>	
<i>Calystegia silvatica</i>	Great Bindweed	Southern lakes
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Bindweed	Widespread - the bright pink bindweed
<i>Convolvulus elegantissimus</i>	a Bindweed	Scattered; more delicate than above
<i>Cuscuta epithymum</i>	Common Dodder	Cavagrande (?)
<b>Crassulaceae</b>	<b>Stonecrop Family</b>	
<i>Sedum aetnense</i>	Etna Stonecrop	Slopes of Mt Etna, not in flower (endemic)
<i>Sedum caeruleum</i>	Blue stonecrop	Roadsides (endemic)
<i>Sedum rubens</i>	Reddish Stonecrop	Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>	Wall Pennywort	Cavagrande, Etna
<b>Cucurbitaceae</b>		
<i>Ecballium elaterium</i>	Squirting Cucumber	Pantano Longarini
<b>Dipsacaceae</b>	<b>Teasel Family</b>	
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Teasel	Scattered - old seedheads and young leaves
<i>Knautia integrifolia</i>	A Scabious	Scattered
<b>Ericaceae</b>	<b>Heather Family</b>	
<i>Erica multiflora</i>	A Heather	Cavagrande - likes alkaline soil
<b>Euphorbiaceae</b>	<b>Spurge Family</b>	
<i>Euphorbia ceratocarpa</i>	A Spurge	This is the common medium sized spurge in dry places
<i>Euphorbia characias subsp. characias</i>	Large Mediterranean Spurge	Common
<i>Euphorbia dendroides</i>	Tree Spurge	Common
<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	Sun Spurge	Common - a very small spurge
<i>Euphorbia paralias</i>	Sea Spurge	Vendicari
<i>Euphorbia pinea</i>	A Spurge	Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Castor Oil Plant	Southern lakes
<b>Fabaceae</b>	<b>Pea Family</b>	
<i>Acacia cyanophylla</i>	A Wattle	Vendicari, going over
<i>Anthyllis tetraphylla</i>	Bladder Vetch	Saline di Vendicari
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria ssp. prarpropera</i>	Kidney Vetch (pink)	Scattered
<i>Astragalus siculus</i>	Etna Milk-vetch	Dense cushions on lava flows, Mt Etna (endemic)
<i>Bitumaria bituminosa</i>	Pitch Trefoil	Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Calicotome spinosa</i>	Thorny Broom	Widespread eg Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Cytisus villosus</i>	Hairy Broom	Lower slopes of Mt Etna
<i>Dorycnium rectum</i>	A Dorycnium	Vendicari, walkway to sea, like a giant clover
<i>Genista aetnensis</i>	Etna Broom	Dominant on upper slopes of Mt Etna, not in flower (endemic)
<i>Hedysarum coronarium</i>	Italian Sainfoin	Roadsides and fields near Catania; bright magenta
<i>Lathyrus cicera</i>	-	Road to Cavagrande; red
<i>Lathyrus clymenum</i>	-	Widespread eg Saline di Siracusa, pink and purple pea
<i>Lotus cytisoides</i>	A Birdsfoot Trefoil	Coastal - rather succulent leaves
<i>Lotus edulis</i>	Edible Lotus	Saline di Siracusa
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black Medick	Round Pozzo di Mazza

Scientific name	Common name	Location
<i>Melilotus indicus</i>	Small Melilot	Scattered
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	False Acacia	Roadsides towards Etna
<i>Scorpiurus muricatus</i>	Scorpiurus	Cavagrande, in seed
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom	Roadsides
<i>Tetragonolobus purpureus</i>	Asparagus Pea	Cavagrande; dark velvety red with 2 orange spots on keel
<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Hop Trefoil	Scattered
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	Widespread
<i>Trifolium resupinatum</i>	Reversed Clover	Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Trifolium stellatum</i>	Starry Clover	Widespread and common
<i>Vicia hybrida</i>	Hairy Yellow Vetchling	Saline di Siracusa
<i>Vicia sativa subsp. sativa</i>	Fodder Vetch	Scattered
<i>Vicia villosa subsp. ambigua</i>	Fodder Vetch (pale)	Lower slopes of Etna
<b>Fagaceae</b>	<b>Beech Family</b>	
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut	Slopes of Mt Etna
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech	Slopes of Mt Etna
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holly Oak	Scattered
<i>Quercus pubescens</i>	Downy Oak	Scattered eg round Cavagrande
<b>Frankeniaceae</b>		
<i>Frankenia laevis</i>	Sea Heath	Capo Murro di Porco
<b>Fumariaceae</b>	<b>Fumitory Family</b>	
<i>Fumaria capreolata</i>	White Ramping Fumitory	Widespread
<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	Common Fumitory	Saline di Siracusa
<b>Gentianaceae</b>	<b>Gentian Family</b>	
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-wort	Capo Murro di Porco and Vendicari
<i>Centaurium erythraea</i>	Common Centaury	Capo Murro di Porco and Vendicari (tiny pink flowers)
<i>Centaurium pulchellum</i>	Lesser Centaury	Capo Murro di Porco (as above but no basal rosette)
<b>Geraniaceae</b>	<b>Geranium Family</b>	
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Stork's-bill	Scattered especially round Etna
<i>Erodium malacoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Stork's-bill	Widespread and common
<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	Shining Crane's-bill	Widespread and common
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	Scattered
<b>Juglandaceae</b>	<b>Walnut Family</b>	
<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut	Scattered
<b>Lamiaceae</b>	<b>Dead-nettle Family</b>	
<i>Ajuga chamaepitys</i>	Ground-pine	Cavagrande, by the final viewpoint (small, yellow flowers)
<i>Mentha pulegium</i>	Pennyroyal	Scattered
<i>Prasium majus</i>	Prasium	Widespread - white flowers
<i>Salvia officinalis</i>	Wild Sage	Cavagrande
<i>Satureja hortensis</i>	Summer Savory	Cavagrande
<i>Sideritis romana</i>	Sideritis	Capo Murro di Porco and Vendicari
<i>Thymus capitatus</i>	A Thyme (small bush)	Cavagrande
<b>Linaceae</b>	<b>Flax Family</b>	
<i>Linum bienne</i>	Biennial Flax	Pantano Longarini
<i>Linum strictum subsp.</i>	A yellow flax	Capo Murro di Porco - tiny clustered flowers

Scientific name	Common name	Location
<i>strictum</i> <i>Linum trigynum</i>	A yellow Flax	Capo Murro di Porco - small solitary flowers
<b>Loranthaceae</b> <i>Loranthus europaeus</i>	<b>Mistletoe Family</b> Mistletoe	On a few trees on the lower slopes of Etna
<b>Lythraceae</b> <i>Lythrum junceum</i>	<b>Loosestrife Family</b> A Loosestrife	Flooded meadow off main road to Siracusa
<b>Malvaceae</b> <i>Lavatera cretica</i> <i>Malva cretica</i> <i>Malva neglecta</i> <i>Malva sylvestris</i>	<b>Mallow Family</b> Small Tree Mallow A Mallow Dwarf Mallow Common Mallow	Capo Murro di Porco Capo Murro di Porco Capo Murro di Porco Widespread
<b>Moraceae</b> <i>Ficus carica</i>	<b>Mulberry Family</b> Fig	Common
<b>Myrtaceae</b> <i>Eucalyptus camuldulensis</i>	Red River Gum	Widely planted, eg Vendicari
<b>Nyctaginaceae</b> <i>Bougainvillea glabra</i>	<b>Bougainvillea Family</b> Bougainvillea	Saline di Siracusa and roadsides
<b>Oleaceae</b> <i>Olea europaea</i>	<b>Olive Family</b> Olive	Widely cultivated; occasionally wild
<b>Orobanchaceae</b> <i>Orobanche crenata</i> <i>Orobanche minor</i> <i>Orobanche rapum-genistae</i>	<b>Broomrape Family</b> A Broomrape Common Broomrape Greater Broomrape	Lemon Groves, nr Pozzo Saline di Siracusa Old stems, on Etna Broom, slopes of Mt Etna
<b>Oxalidaceae</b> <i>Oxalis corniculata</i> <i>Oxalis pres-caprae</i>	<b>Wood-sorrel Family</b> Procumbent Yellow Sorrel Bermuda Buttercup	Archaeological Park, Siracusa Widespread and common
<b>Papaveraceae</b> <i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	<b>Poppy Family</b> Common Poppy	Scattered
<b>Plantaginaceae</b> <i>Plantago coronopus</i> <i>Plantago crassifolia</i> <i>Plantago lagopus</i> <i>Plantago lanceolata</i> <i>Plantago serraria</i>	<b>Plantain Family</b> Buck's-horn Plantain A Plantain with linear fleshy lvs Hare's-foot Plantain Ribwort Plantain A Plantain with toothed leaves	Coastal Vendicari Widespread Scattered Locally common
<b>Plumbaginaceae</b> <i>Limonium sinuatum</i>	<b>Thrift Family</b> Winged Sea-lavender	Capo Murro di Porco (purple and white everlasting flower)
<b>Polygonaceae</b>	<b>Dock Family</b>	

Scientific name	Common name	Location
<i>Rumex bucephaliflorus</i>	Horned Dock	Widespread
<i>Rumex scutatus forma aetnensis</i>	Etna Sorrel	Lava flows of Mt Etna, endemic
<b>Primulaceae</b>	<b>Primrose Family</b>	
<i>Anagallis arvensis (Blue)</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel, blue form	Widespread and common
<i>Anagallis arvensis (Red)</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel	Scattered
<i>Anagallis foemina</i>	Blue Pimpernel	Capo Murro di Porco - more delicate blue flowers than above
<b>Ranunculaceae</b>	<b>Buttercup Family</b>	
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Traveller's Joy	Scattered round Cavagrande area
<i>Nigella damascena</i>	Love-in-a-mist	Capo Murro di Porco and elsewhere
<i>Ranunculus millefoliatus</i>	Million-leaved Buttercup	Scattered round Cavagrande area (finely divided leaves)
<i>Ranunculus scleratus</i>	Celery-leaved Buttercup	Flooded meadow off main road to Siracusa
<i>Ranunculus cf trichophyllus</i>	Thread-leaved Water-crowfoot	Flooded meadow off main road to Siracusa
<i>Ranunculus cf velutinus</i>	a Buttercup	Flooded meadow off main road to Siracusa
<b>Resedaceae</b>	<b>Mignonette Family</b>	
<i>Reseda alba</i>	White Mignonette	Roadsides towards Etna
<b>Rhamnaceae</b>	<b>Buckthorn Family</b>	
<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i>	Mediterranean Buckthorn	Widespread especially round Cavagrande
<b>Rosaceae</b>	<b>Rose Family</b>	
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	Scattered round Cavagrande area
<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Loquat	Cultivated
<i>Potentilla calabra</i>	A Cinquefoil	Lunch spot on Etna
<i>Prunus avium</i>	Wild Cherry	Scattered on slopes of Mt Etna, also cultivated
<i>Prunus dulcis</i>	Almond	Cultivated
<i>Pyrus amygdaliformis</i>	Almond-leaved Pear	Scattered round Cavagrande area
<i>Rosa canina agg</i>	Dog Rose	Scattered round Cavagrande area
<i>Rubus fruticosus agg</i>	Bramble	Scattered
<i>Sarcopoterium spinosum</i>	Thorny Burnet	Scattered eg Capo Murro di Porco and Gorge
<b>Rubiaceae</b>	<b>Bedstraw Family</b>	
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	Scattered
<i>Galium mollugo agg</i>	Hedge Bedstraw	Near Cavagrande
<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Madder	Near Cavagrande
<i>Sherardia arvensis</i>	Sherardia	Cavagrande
<b>Rutaceae</b>	<b>Rue Family</b>	
<i>Citrus limon</i>	Lemon	Round Pozzo (cultivated)
<i>Citrus sinensis</i>	Orange	Round Pozzo (cultivated)
<b>Salicaceae</b>	<b>Willow Family</b>	
<i>Populus nigra</i>	Black Poplar	Vendicari
<i>Salix species</i>	Willows (not identified)	Vendicari
<b>Santalaceae</b>	<b>Sandalwood Family</b>	
<i>Osyris alba</i>	Osyris	Scattered eg Pantano Cuba

Scientific name	Common name	Location
<b>Scrophulariaceae</b>	<b>Figwort Family</b>	
<i>Antirrhinum siculus</i>	Sicilian Snapdragon	Widespread; white and yellow flowers
<i>Bellardia trixago</i>	Bellardia	Widespread; yellow form at Saline di Siracusa
<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	Yellow Bartsia	Widespread
<i>Verbascum sinuatum</i>	A Mullein	Road towards gorge
<i>Veronica cymbalaria</i>	White Speedwell	Archaeological Park, Siracusa
<b>Tamaricaceae</b>	<b>Tamarisk Family</b>	
<i>Tamarix africana</i>	Tamarisk	Scattered (other species may also have been seen)
<b>Urticaceae</b>	<b>Nettle Family</b>	
<i>Parietaria diffusa</i>	Pellitory of the Wall	Widespread
<i>Parietaria officinalis</i>	Common Pellitory	Scattered
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Nettle	Scattered
<i>Urtica membranacea</i>	Membranous Nettle	Archaeological Park, Siracusa
<b>Thymelaeaceae</b>	<b>Daphne Family</b>	
<i>Daphne laureola</i>	Spurge Laurel	Slopes of Mt Etna
<b>Valerianaceae</b>	<b>Valerian Family</b>	
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red Valerian	Lava flows and slopes of Mt Etna
<i>Fedia cornucopiae</i>	Fedia	Scattered, especially inland
<i>Valerianella cf discoidea</i>	A Cornsalad	Cavagrande (in fruit)
<b>Verbenaceae</b>	<b>Verbena Family</b>	
<i>Phyla nodiflora</i>	Frog Fruit	Weed in the Pozzo lawns with heads of tiny mauve-white flowers
<i>Verbena officinalis</i>	Vervain	Archaeological Park, Siracusa
<b>Violaceae</b>	<b>Violet Family</b>	
<i>Viola aethnensis</i>	Etna Violet	Clump seen from Funivia, on Etna; endemic
<b>Liliidae (Monocotyledons)</b>		
<b>Agavaceae</b>	<b>Agave family</b>	
<i>Agave americana</i>	Agave or Century Plant	Scattered
<b>Alismaceae</b>		
<i>Alisma plantago-aquatica</i>	Water Plantain	Flooded meadow off main road to Siracusa
<b>Araceae</b>	<b>Lords and Ladies Family</b>	
<i>Arum italicum</i>	Large Cuckoo Pint	Saline di Priolo
<b>Cyperaceae</b>	<b>Sedge Family</b>	
<i>Carex otrubae</i>	False Fox Sedge	Saline di Priolo
<b>Dioscoreaceae</b>	<b>Black Bryony Family</b>	
<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black Bryony	Saline di Priolo
<b>Iridaceae</b>	<b>Iris Family</b>	
<i>Gladiolus byzantinus</i>	Byzantine Gladiolus	Among the Chamaerops Palms, Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Gladiolus italicus</i>	Italian Gladiolus	Cavagrande
<i>Moraea sisyrrhinchium</i>	Barbary Nut	Widespread: Pale blue Iris which opens in the afternoon

Scientific name	Common name	Location
<b>Juncaceae</b>	<b>Rush Family</b>	
<i>Juncus acutus</i>	Sharp Rush	Southern lakes
<i>Juncus articulatus</i>	Jointed Rush	Southern lakes
<i>Juncus maritimus</i>	Sea Rush	Vendicari
<b>Liliaceae</b>	<b>Lily Family</b>	
<i>Allium ampeloprasum</i>	Wild Leek	Probable (in bud), riverside path to sea, Siracusa
<i>Allium roseum</i>	Rosy Garlic	Scattered
<i>Allium subhirsutum</i>	A Leek	Common inland, towards Cavagrande
<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>	Prickly Asparagus	Scattered
<i>Asphodeline lutea</i>	Yellow Asphodel	Lower slopes of Mt Etna
<i>Asphodelus aestivus</i>	Common Asphodel	Generally over, still in flower round Etna
<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	Small Asphodel	Saline di Siracusa
<i>Muscari comosum</i>	Tassel Hyacinth	Cavagrande
<i>Ornithogalum angustifolium</i>	Common Star of Bethlehem	Cavagrande
<i>Ornithogalum narbonense</i>	A spiked Star of Bethlehem	Capo Murro di Porco and Saline di Siracusa
<i>Pancratium maritimum</i>	Sea Daffodil	Vendicari (leaves only)
<i>Smilax aspera</i>	Smilax	Cavagrande
<i>Urginea maritima</i>	Sea Squill	Cavagrande (v large leaves, not in flower)
<b>Orchidaceae</b>	<b>Orchid Family</b>	
<i>Dactylorhiza sambucina</i>	Elder-flowered Orchid	Lower slopes of Mt Etna, lemon. magenta and intermediates
<i>Ophrys apifera</i>	Bee Orchid	Track to flooded meadow off main road to Siracusa
<i>Ophrys biancae</i>	Bianca's Orchid	Cavagrande; endemic to Sicily
<i>Ophrys ciliata</i>	Mirror Orchid	Cavagrande
<i>Ophrys lutea</i>	Yellow Bee Orchid	Cavagrande
<i>Ophrys oxyrhynchus</i>	-	Cavagrande; endemic to Sicily and S Italy
<i>Ophrys sicula</i>	-	Cavagrande (smaller yellow bee orchid with 'bunny ears')
<i>Orchis papilionacea</i> <i>var. grandiflora</i>	Pink Butterfly Orchis	Cavagrande
<i>Serapias orientalis</i> <i>var.</i> <i>siciliensis</i>	A Tongue Orchid	Cavagrande; endemic to Sicily
<i>Serapias parviflora</i>	Small-flowered Tongue Orchid	Cavagrande
<i>Serapias vomeracea</i>	Plough-share Tongue Orchid	Cavagrande
<b>Palmae</b>	<b>Palm Family</b>	
<i>Chamaerops humilis</i>	Dwarf Fan Palm	Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i>	Date Palm	Widely planted
<b>Poaceae</b>	<b>Grass Family</b>	
<i>Aegilops geniculata</i>	Aegilops	Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Ampelodesma mauritanica</i>	-	Widespread; tall majestic grass
<i>Anthoxanthum odorata</i>	Sweet Vernal Grass	Cavagrande
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed	Widespread in wetlands
<i>Avena sterilis</i>	Winter Wild-oat	Widespread
<i>Briza maxima</i>	Great Quaking-grass	Scattered eg Capo Murro di Porco
<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	Great Brome	Widespread
<i>Bromus rigidus</i>	Stiff Brome	Scattered
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Bermuda Grass	Vendicari
<i>Cynosurus echinatus</i>	Rough Dog's-tail	Scattered

Scientific name	Common name	Location
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot	Widespread
<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	Wall Barley	Scattered
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	Hare's-tail Grass	Common, v soft head
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common Reed	Widespread in wetlands
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual Meadow-grass	Widespread
<i>Poa bulbosa vivipara</i>	Bulbous Meadow-grass	Slopes of Mt Etna (viviparous form)
<b>Posidoniaceae</b>		
<i>Posidonia oceanica</i>	Posidonia	Balls formed from leaf debris abundant on beaches

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