



Honeyguide

WILDLIFE HOLIDAYS

36 Thunder Lane, Thorpe St Andrew, Norwich NR7 0PX

Telephone: 01603 300552

www.honeyguide.co.uk E-mail: chris@honeyguide.co.uk



Menorca
9 – 16 April 2025

Holiday participants

Ron Fitton and Val Appleyard
Anne McGregor
Julie Sherwood
Jillian Macready

Rory Burrow
Tricia Williams
Sue and Peter Burge
David and Barbara Lovell

Leaders

Chris Gibson and Ivan Nethercoat, who wrote this report.

Daily diary by Ivan, wildlife lists compiled by Chris.

Our base at Matchani Gran: <http://menorcacountryhouse.com>

Photos by Ivan Nethercoat, all taken on the holiday.

Cover: traditional olive-wood gates, Audouin's gull and mirror orchid.

Below: the group at Binidali Cove.



Joining the group during the week (see page 6) were guests from Grup Balear d'Ornitologia i Defensa de la Naturalesa – GOB Menorca, namely Margarita Masferrer, President of GOB, Carlos Coll, past President of GOB and his wife Deborah. There is a blog about their visit here:

honeyguidewildlife.blogspot.com/2025/04/honeyguide-and-gob-menorca.html

As on every Honeyguide wildlife holiday, we contributed to a conservation project, in this case the work of GOB Menorca. The conservation contribution of £40 per person, supplemented by gift aid through the Honeyguide Wildlife Charitable Trust, totalled £560. This donation brings the total raised by Honeyguide for GOB to £13,598. The total for all conservation contributions through Honeyguide since 1991 is £157,727 (April 2025).

Jan Ros, GOB Communications Office, who helped to set up the visit, says: "I'd like to take this opportunity once again to thank you, on behalf of GOB, for your continued support, including this generous annual donation, as well as for the ethical and educational work carried out by Honeyguide."

DAILY DIARY

Wednesday 9 April – arrival and scene setting

Several days of bright sun but bitterly cold winds in the UK had set us right for some warmth and Menorca was did not disappoint. Arriving late morning on a hassle-free flight allowed time for a relaxed arrival, a very pleasant lunch and a stroll around the fields and along the wonderful driveway, all bathed in the warmth of the Mediterranean sun and breeze. Matxani Gran at its most sublime!

Highlights of the afternoon were our first red kite and booted eagles – the first of many of these, the commonest large raptors on the island. A Balearic woodchat shrike popped up briefly and a whinchat was the first of our migrants passing through. Other migrants included pied flycatcher and wood warbler among the resident goldfinches and serins. In the grazed fields, hollow-stemmed asphodel was in full bloom, most stems seemingly supporting asphodel bugs or aestivating snails. Orchids included sawfly, mirror, pyramidal and small-flowered tongue while small-flowered catchfly and branched broomrape added to the mix, while our first Hermann's tortoises were much appreciated! A nice welcome and orientation to the island with more to come.



Pale phase booted eagle; red kite.

Thursday 10 April – Son Bou and Torre d'en Gaumes

A 7am some met for a pre-breakfast wander, with nightingales and hoopoe providing a nice addition to the dawn chorus of goldfinches, linnets and blackcaps. No passage migrants this morning but a good stroll, nonetheless.

After a good buffet breakfast, our first destination was Son Bou, with a short walk to the beach where Audouin's gulls greeted us along with their yellow-legged relatives. Among the domestic wildfowl, moorhens and coots dabbled around and the occasional Mediterranean shag flew past. After quick exploration of 'nun's farts' on the beach (compacted balls of sea-grass), we set off to a section of the Camí de Cavalls long distance footpath that took us behind the marsh, with a chance to look onto an area of open water. Three spoonbills and a glossy ibis were a nice surprise among the familiar wildfowl that included mallards, shelducks and gadwalls. Black-winged stilts strutted through the water while a lone spotted redshank 'danced' in the water. Two purple swamphens appeared briefly from the waterside vegetation, a relative newcomer to the island. Lots of insect activity, especially around the galactites flowers, included most dramatically several mammoth wasps, all confirmed retrospectively as *Megascolia bidens*.

We stopped under the pines for lunch and then went to the wonderful Torre d'en Gaumes, a sprawling archaeological site dating back 4,000 years that provides an amazing glimpse of the pre-history of Menorca but is now also a beautiful 'rockery' of wild flowers and olive trees. A nice male



At Torre d'en Gaumes.

redstart and willow warbler were feeding among the olive trees while an Italian wall lizard sneaked its way along the wall. A hummingbird hawk-moth caterpillar was a great find among the similarly coloured vegetation. The plants were a big part of this amazing site: pale periwinkle, lots of clovers and medicks, urospermum, white ramping-fumitory and a whole lot more.

Friday 11 April – S'Albufera des Grau

S'Albufera des Grau is one of the key parts of the only Natural Park on Menorca, a wetland which in winter provides refuge to thousands of waterfowl. In mid-April relatively few remain, and the first hide revealed just coots and mallards, with a few great crested and little grebes performing well in front of us. A beautiful pale-phase booted eagle drifted overhead and red kites flew over throughout the visit, joined later by adult and juvenile Egyptian vultures. A red-rumped swallow flew alongside our familiar barn swallows, a reminder that migrants are on their way, and a red-veined darter dragonfly gave ample chance for all to see and photograph it.

This was followed by a nice guided tour of the native plants in the visitor centre garden, a short drive to the edge of the village of Es Grau for lunch (enlivened by the aggregations of Sicilian leaf-cutter bees on sandy patches) and then we were off for a stroll around the edge of the lake via some promising looking tidal pools. Today though they were very quiet, just black-winged stilts and a grey heron sharing the shallow water with non-native blue-clawed crabs.



Leaf-cutter bees; blue-clawed crab.

Onto the boardwalk to take us over the wet vegetation and then into the pine woodland. Again, there were very few birds and no migrants, but plenty of nice tortoises though. The path took us to the beach and the flowery dunes with *Lotus cytisoides*, sea knotgrass and sea-rocket. The beach itself was covered in the rich invertebrate habitat and nutrient resource of sea-grass litter, thankfully here not cleared away, much in the form of nun's-farts in a range of sizes.

Out at sea, Cory's shearwaters skimmed and arced the waves, but the big surprise was the uncountable numbers of by-the-wind sailors piled up on the tideline, shimmering blue among the stranded sea-grass. A dune tiger-beetle ran across the sand, looking for prey among the other insects among the sand.



"Uncountable numbers of by-the-wind sailors piled up on the tideline."

When almost home we stopped off at the end of the drive to enjoy the Arabian star-of-Bethlehem that was just starting to flower. As we arrived a turtle dove started to purr, bringing joy to all, even though we were not able to track it down until later in the week.

Saturday 12 April – Fornells and Sa Roca

Fornells is on the north coast, at the gateway to the peninsula where the landscape is harsh, stony and full of low-growing plants, including many endemic forms. An osprey greeted us as we arrived and showed briefly a few times while we were there, along with Egyptian vultures and singing blue rock thrushes. Pristine painted lady butterflies among the bird's-foot trefoil were a delight to see and out to sea there were large rafts of shearwaters, both Cory's and Balearic, loafing on the calm seas. All this was wrapped up with a demonstration of the local geological cataclysms using the flagstones laid on the path to the tower, and a welcome coffee-stop in the town.

We headed to the wooded hills of Sa Roca for lunch, in Aleppo pine forest with an understorey of tree-heath and strawberry-tree. Chris set off to locate some specials while the rest of us had lunch and tried to work out why camera phones don't like to focus on orchids!

Alongside the now-familiar widespread sawfly and mirror orchids, we also located several spikes, just flowering, of the saprophytic violet bird's-nest orchid, together with the diminutive bumblebee orchids. Thanks to Chris's recce, our other botanical target *Cytinus ruber*, an unusual fungus-like parasite of pink Cistus, soon revealed itself, albeit not quite in fully open flower. The Cistus flowers were welcoming insects as usual but a lovely find by Val was the remarkable, spiny cistus hedgehog-beetle. And as always, time spent looking for more revealed other lovely invertebrates, including red jumping spiders and crab spiders. But even these were eventually trumped when Chris's sharp eyes, newly cleared of cataracts, found a wonderful two-tailed pasha caterpillar, just starting to pupate on a strawberry-tree leaf. Walking back to the vans, suddenly orchids appeared that we missed on the walk up, a star among them being yellow bee orchid. Birds in the pines are often low in number and quiet, but an Egyptian vulture gave us a flypast and a hoopoe dashed across the road as we started the climb, but this was a botanical/invertebrate site and it didn't disappoint!



Yellow bee orchid; two-tailed pasha caterpillar; Egyptian vulture.

Sunday 13 April – Cala Galdana and Algendar Gorge

Rain welcomed us this morning, a persistent rain that we hoped would bring down some migrant birds. It was also the type of rain that put off our regular morning crew and just Tricia stepped out to brave the weather. It was a damp but pleasant walk but sadly few birds: nightingales serenaded us of course but the hoped for migrants were not to be found.

The rain slightly eased as we approached Cala Galdana and we set off to the two viewpoints, one looking seaward, the other over the chocolate-box view of Menorca: cobalt sea, with darker patches of sea-grass, below pale cliffs (and hotels) and green forest, a spectacular view, even without the sun. The seaward view atop sheer cliffs gave us views of swifts, peregrine and a striped hawk-moth, fleetingly nectaring at a Cistus flower; the view over the bay was less productive but we could hear the calls of alpine swifts somewhere close by. As we returned to the vans they appeared, hunting low over the trees and houses, first six and then as we watched we counted 11 birds, perhaps fresh in from Africa.

On then to Algendar Gorge, not the regular tourist end but the far end that is much quieter, at the inland heart of the island. Fabulous fields of wild flowers lined the road as we drove down to the car park and as we walked down the gorge track, the noise of cliff-nesting house sparrows greeted us along with blackcaps, many of them singing and flitting in the bushes by the path. A blue rock thrush showed nicely and perched on the edge of many small 'caves' in the gorge was an adult Egyptian vulture. The walk is spectacular and

the plants equally so: sheets of three-cornered leek, with greater celandine, maidenhair fern, large lords-and-ladies and a beautiful bright purple form of branched broomrape, while a bit of judicious stone-turning revealed several Balearic scorpions. Other invertebrates included some lumbering oil-beetles and a very interesting-looking *Odontotarsus* bug, which seems to be *O. caudatus*, apparently known in the Balearics from only one spot in western Mallorca.

The forecast lunchtime rain never materialised so lunch was taken in the car park followed by a 'Honeyguide potter' along the road to explore the flowers we had driven bumpily past on the way down. With more rain forecast we headed back to base to see if we could find those migrants again. The rain eased off and while the birds did not show, just willow warbler and turtle dove with an audio-only appearance, it was a great walk botanically, with swathes of bellardia and yellow bartsia, and hairy chafers among the more frequent spotted ones.



Root mass in Algendar Gorge; bellardia; blue rock thrush.

Monday 14 April – Cales Coves, Binidali

Cales Coves, a less-visited site for Honeyguide and nicely close to base, is an archaeological site at the end of a track down to a small bay. The island of Menorca has the highest density of prehistoric sites in the world, dating back to 1600 BC. The interest here are caves above the bay, now sealed to preserve their history but the site inspires the imagination for how people have lived and responded to life and death on the island. For us, that response was one of curiosity as to why the birds were so few and far between (apart from nightingales) and fascination with the botanical richness on show. Open clearings in the scrubby slopes down were covered in swathes of gladioli, tassel hyacinths and pyramidal orchids, while less widespread species included bladder vetch and the beautiful red broomrape *Orobanche sanguinea*. Our only encounter of the week with the endemic Balearic orchid was unfortunately only with now-dead flowers...

Down in the tranquil cove, the cliffs and extensive necropolis was spectacular. A lone common sandpiper fluttered across the bay and a blue rock thrush put in a brief appearance. Just before the bay a whitethroat scratched out its song, a rare migrant on this damp morning when more were expected.

We had lunch back at base and then carried on to our nearest coastland, Binidali Cove, where blue rock thrushes sang from several perches and a stunning stonechat brightened the day. Out to sea a line of glossy ibises drifted by, soon followed by numerous swifts, and then more ibises and a couple of grey herons, signs that some birds at least were on migration. In the next car park an Audouin's gull seemed to be imitating its more common relatives by inspecting the vehicles and their inhabitants for the potential of food. Hard to imagine that during the first Honeyguide trips to the island these beautiful gulls were an endangered species. The open, salt-sprayed limestone clifftop plateau had extensive patches of flowering sea-heath, mingling with tight cushions of the endemic sea-lavender *Limonium minutum*. A walk down to Binidali Cove was quiet for birds but the plants of course put on a show, including perfoliate honeysuckle and friar's-cowl, and the beach was again blue from drift of by-the-wind sailors, with an added pink tideline, probably derived from deposits of foraminifera (single-celled planktonic animals).

We were joined tonight by Margarida Masferrer (President of GOB), Carlos Coll (Past President), and Deborah Coll, formerly the UK honorary consul to the island. They described some of the conservation projects GOB is involved in on Menorca and how the local people have responded. Their success on a limited budget and few staff is impressive and highlights the importance of general donations (and

membership) like ours to their work. They joined us for dinner, a nice opportunity to hear more stories from the island.

Tuesday 15 April – Tirant, Cap de Cavalleria and Binimel-là

A pre-breakfast drive to Binidali was a very pleasant change with beautiful light and a dawn chorus of blue rock thrushes, stonechat and tawny pipits. A peregrine cruised the cliffs and numerous swifts passed by.

After breakfast we headed for Tirant, a seasonal wetland where it was nice to be in the Mediterranean sun again and the birds of prey seemed to agree. Red kites, booted eagles and Egyptian vultures were constantly in the air, along with several marsh harriers, and perched on a distant telegraph pole was a lone red footed falcon. After the recent rains the water was high, and also the vegetation, making birds tricky to see but this was just a great place to be.

Giant fennel provided a dramatic display along the trackside, attracting all manner of insects to its flowers just glistening with nectar, together with sage-leaved and grey-leaved cistus and urospermum. Sadly, there were no bee-eaters around the usual breeding cliffs, although, rather frustratingly, we could hear them, albeit only distantly and sporadically.

Next stop, the very tip of the Cap de Cavalleria, the vegetation becoming more sparse and salt- and wind-pruned, the limestone rocks ever more jagged and prominent every step of the way. A spectacular Balearic dragon arum was found near the car park and then a quick walk to the lighthouse facilities and a look across a breezy and choppy sea before a stroll around the plants on the exposed headland. Here the vegetation is dominated by vegetable hedgehogs, barely in flower, apart from the endemic, sprawling palaui variety of rosemary. Taking protection from the hedgehogs' spines was the small endemic *Lotus tetraphyllus*, while other specialities included pink-flowered endemic *Senecio rodriguezii*, the endemic autumn-flowering *Arum pictum* in fruit and the bare-ground-hugging sand crocus *Romulea assumptionis*.

Lunch was taken by the vehicles at the nearby Binimel-la. A wheatear entertained us to a soundtrack of quail, while behind us Egyptian vultures and ravens were displaying. A gentle walk to the beach among Italian sainfoin allowed us to see long-tailed blue and (for Anne) a crimson speckled moth. Two-spotted mammoth wasps were out in good numbers, and both Egyptian and migratory locusts showed well among the sharp rush, stink aster and sea stock. Single emperor dragonfly and common darter appeared beside the small inlet, while a brief view of common sandpiper was the main bird interest.

Back then for our last meal at Matxani Gran and a round table of highlights of the week.



Cap de Cavalleria; glossy ibises at Tirant (just seen by the guides).

Wednesday 16 April – back to blighty

A quick pre-breakfast trip to the coast and a slow return down the drive was again quiet for migrants but the hoopoe gave a nice goodbye view. The return was all good with delays at Mahon largely made up for on a slightly turbulent return. Passport control at Gatwick was surprisingly quick and then final departures. Thanks for a great week!

Holiday highlights:

| | |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tricia | Number of birds of prey, the flowers. |
| Peter | Stonechat, hummingbird hawkmoth caterpillar, <i>Cytinus ruber</i> . |
| Sue | Cytinus, yellow bee orchid, nightingales, two-tailed pasha caterpillar. |
| Julie | Turtle doves, Cytinus, mammoth wasps. |
| Ron | Mammoth wasps and two-tailed pasha caterpillar. |
| Val | Two-tailed pasha, hedgehog plants, sainfoin, red kites. |
| Jillian | Blue rock thrush, two-tailed pasha caterpillar. |

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Anne | Baby tortoise, crimson speckled moth, Audouin's gull. |
| David | Glossy Ibis, marsh harrier. |
| Barbara | Egyptian vultures, flowers/orchids, archaeology. |
| Rory | By-the-wind sailors, Egyptian vultures. |
| Chris | The red broomrape <i>Orobanche sanguinea</i> . |
| Ivan | Two-tailed pasha caterpillar, just being back on Menorca. |

WILDLIFE LISTS

In the lists that follow, localities are given for those species noted at only a few localities. The localities are identified by the following codes:

| | | | |
|----|---------------------|-----|-------------------|
| MG | Matxani Gran | AG | Algendar Gorge |
| SB | Son Bou | CCo | Cales Coves |
| TG | Torre d'en Gaumes | BC | Binidali Cove |
| EG | s'Albufera des Grau | T | Tirant |
| F | Fornells | CC | Cap de Cavallería |
| SR | Sa Roca | BL | Binimel-là |
| CG | Cala Galdana | | |

BIRDS

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Little grebe | SB EG |
| Great crested grebe | EG |
| Cory's shearwater | EG F |
| Balearic shearwater | F |
| Cormorant | BC |
| Mediterranean shag | SB F CG BC |
| Cattle egret | MG |
| Little egret | SB EG |
| Grey heron | EG BC(2 flying west over the sea) |
| Spoonbill | SB(3) |
| Glossy ibis | SB(1) BC(groups of 7 and 5, flying east) T(8 at rest) |
| Shelduck | SB EG |
| Gadwall | SB EG T |
| Mallard | |
| Teal | SB |
| Pochard | EG |
| Red kite | |
| Egyptian vulture | |
| Marsh harrier | SB EG T |
| Booted eagle | |
| Osprey | F |
| Kestrel | |
| Red-footed falcon | T |
| Peregrine falcon | CG BC |
| Red-legged partridge | MG TG AG CC BL |
| Quail | BL |
| Moorhen | SB EG T |
| Coot | SB EG T |
| Purple Swamphen | SB(2) |
| Black-winged stilt | SB EG |
| Stone-curlew | MG (heard every night, not very close by) TG (heard by day) |
| Spotted Redshank | EG |
| Green sandpiper | T |
| Common sandpiper | EG BL CC |
| Audouin's gull | SB EG CG BC |
| Yellow-legged gull | |
| Rock dove/Feral pigeon | |
| Wood pigeon | |
| Collared dove | |
| Turtle dove | MG |
| Scops owl | MG (heard most nights but distant); AG (heard by day) |
| Common swift | MG BC |
| Alpine swift | CG (perhaps 20 birds, maybe newly arrived) |

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Bee-eater | T BL (distant, heard only) |
| Hoopoe | MG TG journeys |
| Short-toed lark | MG BL (singing) |
| Thekla lark | MG CC |
| Swallow | |
| Red-rumped swallow | EG(around known breeding site) |
| House Martin | Es Mercadal |
| Tawny Pipit | BC CC |
| Tree Pipit | MG(a few migrants flying over) |
| Yellow wagtail | SB T (a few flyovers, subspecies unknown) |
| White wagtail | SB |
| Wren | AG |
| Robin | MG EG (presumably lingering winterers) |
| Redstart | TG MG (single migrants) |
| Nightingale | Everywhere; numbers (or vocality) increased during week |
| Whinchat | MG(single migrant) |
| Stonechat | F BC |
| Northern wheatear | BL(single migrant) |
| Blue rock thrush | F AG CCo BC CC |
| Blackbird | |
| Cetti's warbler | everywhere, including up at SR in anomalous habitat |
| Zitting cisticola | SB EG T journeys |
| Blackcap | large numbers of migrants/winterers, especially at AG |
| Subalpine warbler | SR AG |
| Sardinian warbler | |
| Lesser whitethroat | AG |
| Whitethroat | CC |
| Wood warbler | MG (single migrant) |
| Willow warbler | MG TG AG T |
| Common chiffchaff | MG SR |
| Firecrest | SR AG |
| Pied flycatcher | MG (single migrant) |
| Great tit | |
| Balearic woodchat shrike | MG SB + journeys |
| Spotless starling | SB + journeys |
| Golden oriole | MG(single migrant) |
| Raven | |
| House sparrow | |
| Chaffinch | |
| Greenfinch | |
| Serin | MG |
| Goldfinch | |
| Linnet | |
| Corn bunting | |



Little egret; black-winged stilt.

AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Stripeless tree-frog | AG calling |
| Italian wall lizard | |
| Moorish gecko | MG SB TG |
| Hermann's tortoise | MG SR EG |
| European pond terrapin | T |

MAMMALS

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Algerian hedgehog | road casualty |
| Rabbit | |
| Black rat | eaten pine cones; 1 seen at MG |
| Pine marten | EG spraint |

BUTTERFLIES

| | |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Large white | |
| Small white | |
| Bath white | TG |
| Clouded yellow | SB F BL |
| Cleopatra | |
| Swallowtail | TG |
| Two-tailed pasha starting pupation) | SR (larva, just |
| Red admiral | BC |

| | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Painted lady | |
| Meadow brown | MG |
| Wall brown (incl. form paramegera) | |
| Speckled wood (south-western form) | |
| Small heath | MG |
| Southern brown argus | F |
| Small copper | MG |
| Lang's short-tailed blue | SB |
| Common blue | |
| Long-tailed blue | BL |

MOTHS

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Hummingbird hawk moth | TG (larva) |
| Striped hawk moth | CG |
| Crimson speckled | BL |
| Pine processionary-moth - larval webs | |
| Coppery taupe | MG |
| Dark fern | MG |
| Petite wave | MG |
| Geranium wave | MG |
| Small mottled willow | MG |
| Bordered straw | BL |
| Scarce bordered straw | BL |



Moorish gecko; red jumping spider; painted lady.

OTHER INSECTS

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Lesser emperor <i>Anax parthenope</i> | T |
| Emperor dragonfly <i>Anax imperator</i> | BL |
| Southern migrant hawkler <i>Aeshna affinis</i> | EG |
| Scarlet darter <i>Crocothemis erythraea</i> | SB |
| Red-veined darter <i>Sympetrum fonscolombei</i> | EG |
| Common darter <i>Sympetrum striolatum</i> | BL |
| Blue-tailed damselfly <i>Ischnura elegans</i> | BL |
| Egyptian locust <i>Anacridium aegyptiacum</i> | EG BL |
| Migratory locust <i>Locusta migratoria</i> | BL |
| Blue-winged grasshopper <i>Oedipoda coerulescans</i> | MG |
| Speckled bush-cricket <i>Leptophyes punctatissima</i> | SR |
| Field cricket <i>Gryllus campestris</i> | MG AG BL (calling) |
| Mole-cricket <i>Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa</i> | MG (calling at night) |
| <i>Spilostethus pandurus</i> A red-and-black bug | MG |
| Asphodel bug <i>Horistus orientalis</i> | MG |
| <i>Carpocoris fuscispinus</i> A shield-bug | SB |
| <i>Trioza marginipunctata</i> A psyllid gall on Mediterranean buckthorn | EG |
| Common froghopper <i>Philaenus spumarius</i> | MG |
| <i>Closterotomus trivialis</i> A plant bug | BL |

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <i>Calocoris nemoralis</i> A plant bug | AG |
| <i>Pachyxyphus lineellus</i> A plant bug on Cistus leaves | AG |
| <i>Odontotarsus caudatus</i> A bug, possibly new to Menorca | AG |
| Paper wasp <i>Polistes dominulus</i> | |
| Violet carpenter-bee <i>Xylocopa violácea</i> | MG |
| <i>Eucera</i> sp. A long-horned bee | BL |
| Yellow-horned mammoth wasp <i>Megascolia bidens</i> | SB BL |
| Sicilian leaf-cutter <i>Megachile sicula</i> | |
| <i>Andrena flavipes</i> A mining bee | AG |
| <i>Osmia</i> sp. A mason bee | AG |
| White-tailed bumblebee <i>Bombus lucorum</i> | |
| Honeybee <i>Apis mellifera</i> | |
| Violet oil-beetle <i>Meloe violaceus</i> | AG |
| Churchyard beetle <i>Blaps</i> sp. | |
| <i>Akis acuminata</i> A darkling beetle | |
| Riveted darkling beetle <i>Akis bacarozzo</i> | MG T |
| 7-spot ladybird <i>Coccinella septempunctata</i> | MG |
| Spotted flower-chafer <i>Oxythyrea funesta</i> | |
| Hairy flower-chafer <i>Tropinota hirta</i> | MG |
| Cistus hedgehog beetle <i>Discladispa testacea</i> | SR (just one but lots of larval workings) |
| Beach tiger-beetle <i>Calomera littoralis</i> | EG |
| <i>Lixus</i> sp. A very large, copper-tinged weevil | AG |
| Thick-thighed beetle <i>Oedemerus nobilis</i> | |
| <i>Parhelophilus</i> sp. A hoverfly | SB |
| Batman hoverfly <i>Myathropea florea</i> | SR |
| Marmalade hoverfly <i>Episyrphus balteatus</i> | |
| Drone fly <i>Eristalis tenax</i> | |
| <i>Hemipenthes maura</i> A bee-fly | AG |
| OTHER INVERTEBRATES | |
| Balearic scorpion <i>Euscorpium balearicus</i> | AG |
| Phalangium opilio A harvestman | AG |
| Red jumping spider <i>Carrhotus xanthogramma</i> | SR |
| Muppet spider <i>Menemerus semilimbatus</i> | F |
| A crab spider <i>Synema globosum</i> | SR |
| Flower crab spider <i>Misumena vatia</i> | SR |
| Nursery-web spider <i>Pisaura mirabilis</i> | |
| <i>Salticus</i> sp. A zebra jumping spider | MG |
| <i>Tetragnatha</i> sp. A stretch-spider | BL |
| A pointy snail <i>Clausilia</i> sp | |
| Garden snail <i>Cornu aspersa</i> | |
| Banded snail <i>Cepaea</i> sp | |
| Blue-clawed crab <i>Callinectes sapidus</i> | EG |
| By-the-wind sailor <i>Velella velella</i> | EG CC |
| FUNGI | |
| Brown puffball <i>Bovista plumbea</i> | EG |
| LICHENS | |
| <i>Cladonia foliacea</i> | |
| Sunburst lichen <i>Xanthoria parietina</i> | |
| <i>Fulgensia fulgens</i> | CCo |



Yellow-horned mammoth wasp.

PLANTS

This is a somewhat selective list, concentrating on those species found in flower, or which are otherwise noticeable or interesting. English names are given only where there is one used in the books, or one can justifiably be coined.

After the scientific name, an indication is given for those species or forms considered to be endemic to the region ie to be found in the wild there and only there. The scale of the endemism is taken from the Flowers of Menorca (GOB):

EM – endemic to Menorca

EG – endemic to Menorca and Mallorca

EB – endemic to the Balearic Islands

ET – endemic to the western Mediterranean island area

FERNS & ALLIES

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----|--------|
| <i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i> | maidenhair fern | AG | |
| <i>Equisetum ramosissimum</i> | branched horsetail | | SB |
| <i>Phyllitis sagittata</i> | Mediterranean hart's-tongue | | AG |
| <i>Polypodium cambricum</i> | Southern polypody | | CCo AG |
| <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> | bracken | | SR |

CONIFERS & ALLIES

| | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--|-------|
| <i>Ephedra fragilis</i> | joint-pine | | EG BL |
| <i>Juniperus phoenicea</i> | Phoenician juniper | | SB EG |
| <i>Pinus halepensis</i> | Aleppo pine | | |
| <i>P. pinea</i> | stone pine | | BC |

FLOWERING PLANTS

| | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Acanthaceae | <i>Acanthus mollis</i> | bear's-breeches | | SB AG [planted] |
| Agavaceae | <i>Agave americana</i> | century plant | | BL [planted] |
| Aizoaceae | <i>Carpobrotus edulis</i> | Hottentot-fig | | CF SB |
| Amarylidaceae | <i>Pancratium maritimum</i> | sand daffodil | | SB EG BL |
| Anacardiaceae | <i>Pistachia lentiscus</i> | lentisc | | |
| Apiaceae | <i>Crithmum maritimum</i> | rock samphire | | F BC |
| | <i>Daucus carota</i> | wild carrot | | |
| | <i>Daucus carota ssp. hispanicus</i> | | | BC |
| | <i>Eryngium maritimum</i> | sea-holly | | SB EG |
| | <i>Ferula communis</i> | giant fennel | | |
| | <i>Foeniculum vulgare</i> | fennel | | |
| | <i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i> | shepherd's-needle | | TG |
| | <i>Smyrniolum olusatrum</i> | alexanders | | |
| Apocynaceae | <i>Vinca difformis</i> | pale periwinkle | | TG |
| Araceae | <i>Arisarum vulgare</i> | friar's-cowl | | MG EG BC |
| | <i>Arum italicum</i> | Italian lords-and-ladies | | AG SB |
| | <i>Arum pictum</i> (ET) | | | CC |
| | <i>Dracunculus muscivorus</i> (ET) | Balearic dragon arum | | CC |
| | <i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i> | | | AG [planted] |
| Araliaceae | <i>Hedera helix</i> | ivy | | AG |
| Asteraceae | <i>Anthemis maritima</i> | | | F |
| | <i>Artemisia coerulescens</i> | | | EG |
| | <i>Artemisia gallica</i> | | | BC |
| | <i>Asteriscus maritimus</i> | | | F |
| | <i>Bellis annua</i> | annual daisy | | |
| | <i>Chrysanthemum coronarium</i> | crown daisy | | |
| | <i>Evax pygmaea</i> | | | MG |
| | <i>Filago pyramidata</i> | broad-leaved cudweed | | MG |
| | <i>Galactites tomentosa</i> | | | |
| | <i>Helichrysum stoechas</i> | | | |
| | <i>Hyoseris radiata</i> | | | |
| | <i>Hypochaeris achyrophorus</i> | | | |
| | <i>Inula crithmoides</i> | golden-samphire | | EG SB |
| | <i>Inula viscosa</i> | stink aster | | T BL |
| | <i>Launaea cervicornis</i> (EG) | hedgehog lettuce | | CC CF |
| | <i>Pallenis spinosa</i> | | | |
| | <i>Phagnalon saxatile</i> | | | CCo |
| | <i>Reichardia tingitana</i> | | | |
| | <i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i> var. <i>magonica</i> (EM) | lavender-cotton | | CC |
| | <i>Senecio rodriguezii</i> (EG) | | | CC CF |
| | <i>Silybum marianum</i> | milk-thistle | | |
| | <i>Sonchus tenerrimus</i> | | | |
| | <i>Urospermum dalechampii</i> | urospermum | | |

| | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Boraginaceae | <i>Borago officinalis</i> | borage | | |
| | <i>Cynoglossum creticum</i> | blue hound's-tongue | SB EG | |
| | <i>Echium parviflorum</i> | small-flowered viper's-bugloss | MG | |
| | <i>Echium plantagineum</i> | purple viper's-bugloss | | |
| | <i>Echium sabulicola</i> | | SB | |
| Brassicaceae | <i>Cakile maritima</i> | sea-rocket | EG | |
| | <i>Lobularia maritima</i> | sweet alison | | |
| | <i>Matthiola sinuata</i> | sea stock | CCo BL | |
| | <i>Raphanus raphanistrum maritimus</i> | sea radish | CCo BL | |
| Cactaceae | <i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i> | prickly-pear | | |
| Caprifoliaceae | <i>Lonicera implexa</i> | perfoliate honeysuckle | | |
| Caryophyllaceae | <i>Petrorrhagia nanteuillii</i> | childling pink | AG | |
| | <i>Silene bellidifolia</i> | | CCo | |
| | <i>Silene gallica</i> | small-flowered catchfly | | |
| Chenopodiaceae | <i>Arthrocnemum macrostachyum</i> | | EG | |
| | <i>Atriplex portulacoides</i> | sea-purslane | EG | |
| | <i>Beta vulgaris</i> ssp. <i>maritima</i> | sea beet | | |
| | <i>Salicornia ramosissima</i> | glasswort | | |
| | <i>Sarcocornia fruticosa</i> | shrubby glasswort | EG | |
| Cistaceae | <i>Cistus albidus</i> | grey-leaved cistus | | |
| | <i>Cistus monspeliensis</i> | narrow-leaved cistus | | |
| | <i>Cistus salvifolius</i> | sage-leaved cistus | | |
| Convolvulaceae | <i>Calystegia soldanella</i> | sea bindweed | EG BL | |
| | <i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i> | mallow-leaved bindweed | | |
| Crassulaceae | <i>Umbilicus rupestris</i> | navelwort | | |
| Cyperaceae | <i>Schoenus nigricans</i> | black bog-rush | F CC | |
| Dioscoreaceae | <i>Tamus communis</i> | black bryony | AG | |
| Ericaceae | <i>Arbutus unedo</i> | strawberry-tree | SR | |
| | <i>Erica arborea</i> | tree-heath | EG | |
| Euphorbiaceae | <i>Euphorbia characias</i> | large Mediterranean spurge | AG | |
| | <i>Euphorbia dendroides</i> | tree spurge | EG CF | |
| | <i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i> | sun spurge | | |
| | <i>Euphorbia paralias</i> | sea spurge | SB EG | |
| | <i>Euphorbia terracina</i> | | CF | |
| Fabaceae | <i>Astragalus balearicus</i> (EG) | hedgehog milk-vetch | CF CC | |
| | <i>Calicotome spinosa</i> | spiny broom | | |
| | <i>Coronilla juncea</i> | | SR | |
| | <i>Dorycnium hirsutum</i> | | SR | |
| | <i>Dorycnium pentaphyllum</i> | | SR | |
| | <i>Hedysarum coronarium</i> | Italian sainfoin | | |
| | <i>Hedysarum spinosissimum</i> | | CCo | |
| | <i>Lathyrus clymenum</i> | | EG CCo | |
| | <i>Lathyrus ochrus</i> | | | |
| | <i>Lathyrus sphaericus</i> | | EG CCo | |
| | <i>Lotus cytisoides</i> | | | |
| | <i>Lotus tetraphyllum</i> (EG) | | CC | |
| | <i>Medicago minima</i> | bur trefoil | MG TG | |
| | <i>Psoralea bituminosa</i> | pitch trefoil | EG AG | |
| | <i>Scorpiurus muricatus</i> | | MG | |
| | <i>Trifolium campestre</i> | hop trefoil | AG | |
| | <i>Trifolium nigrescens</i> | | | |
| | <i>Trifolium resupinatum</i> | reversed clover | T | |
| | <i>Trifolium stellatum</i> | starry clover | | |
| | <i>Trifolium tomentosum</i> | woolly clover | MG | |
| | <i>Tripodium tetraphyllum</i> | bladder vetch | MG CCo | |
| | <i>Vicia benghalensis</i> | | EG CCo | |
| | <i>Vicia bithynica</i> | Bithynian vetch | EG | |
| | <i>Vicia lutea</i> | yellow vetch | MG | |
| | <i>Vicia sativa</i> | common vetch | | |
| | Fagaceae | <i>Quercus ilex</i> | holm oak | |
| | Frankeniaceae | <i>Frankenia hirsuta</i> | hairy sea-heath | CC BC |
| Fumariaceae | <i>Fumaria capreolata</i> | white ramping fumitory | | |
| | <i>Fumaria flabellata</i> | | MG | |
| Gentianaceae | <i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i> | yellow-wort | EG | |

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|-----|
| Geraniaceae | <i>Erodium cicutarium</i> | common stork's-bill | | |
| | <i>Erodium malacoides</i> | mallow-leaved stork's-bill | | |
| | <i>Erodium moschatum</i> | musk stork's-bill | | |
| | <i>Geranium purpureum</i> | little-robin | | |
| | <i>Geranium robertianum</i> | herb-robert | | |
| | <i>Geranium rotundifolium</i> | round-leaved crane's-bill | | |
| Iridaceae | <i>Gladiolus illyricus</i> | wild gladiolus | SR | |
| | <i>Gladiolus italicus</i> | | | |
| | <i>Iris germanica</i> | purple iris | MG | |
| | <i>Iris pseudacorus</i> | yellow flag | SB | |
| | <i>Romulea assuptionis (EB)</i> | | CC | |
| Juncaceae | <i>Juncus acutus</i> | sharp rush | | |
| Lamiaceae | <i>Mentha aquatica</i> | water mint | AG | |
| | <i>Mentha rotundifolia</i> | apple mint | AG | |
| | <i>Prasium majus</i> | | MG TG CCo | |
| | <i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i> | rosemary | SR | |
| | <i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i> var. <i>palaui (EG)</i> | | CC | |
| | <i>Salvia verbenaca</i> | meadow clary | BL | |
| | <i>Sideritis romana</i> | | MG | |
| | Liliaceae | <i>Allium commutatum</i> | wild leek | F |
| <i>Allium roseum</i> | | rose garlic | | |
| <i>Allium triquetrum</i> | | three-cornered leek | | |
| <i>Asparagus acutifolius</i> | | | | |
| <i>Asparagus albus</i> | | | | |
| <i>Asparagus horridus</i> | | | | |
| <i>Asphodelus aestivus</i> | | white asphodel | | |
| <i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i> | | hollow-stemmed asphodel | | |
| <i>Muscari comosum</i> | | tassel hyacinth | | |
| <i>Ornithogalum arabicum</i> | | Arabian star-of-Bethlehem | MG | |
| <i>Ruscus aculeatus</i> | | butcher's-broom | SB EG | |
| <i>Urginea maritima</i> | | sea squill | | |
| Linaceae | | <i>Linum bienne</i> | pale flax | CCo |
| Malvaceae | | <i>Malva arborea</i> | tree mallow | SB |
| | | <i>Malva sylvestris</i> | common mallow | |
| Moraceae | <i>Ficus carica</i> | fig | | |
| Myoporaceae | <i>Myoporum laetum</i> | ngaio | MG [planted] | |
| Oleaceae | <i>Phillyrea latifolia</i> | | EG BC | |
| | <i>Phillyrea media</i> var. <i>rodriguezii (EM)</i> | | CC | |
| | <i>Olea europaea</i> | olive | | |
| Orobanchaceae | <i>Orobanche minor</i> | | | |
| | <i>Orobanche ramosa</i> | branched broomrape | | |
| | [The evident variation in stature and colour has recently led to the identification of some 6 species on the island; we didn't look critically at them but we probably saw <i>mutelii</i> and <i>nana</i>] | | | |
| Orchidaceae | <i>Orobanche sanguinea</i> | | BC | |
| | <i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i> | pyramidal orchid | | |
| | <i>Barlia robertiana</i> | giant orchid | MG | |
| | <i>Limodorum abortivum</i> | violet bird's-nest orchid | SR | |
| | <i>Ophrys balearica (EB)</i> | Balearic orchid | CCo | |
| | <i>Ophrys bombyliflora</i> | bumblebee orchid | MG SR | |
| | <i>Ophrys fusca</i> | sombre bee orchid | TG | |
| | <i>Ophrys lutea</i> | yellow bee orchid | SR | |
| | <i>Ophrys speculum</i> | mirror orchid | | |
| | <i>Ophrys tenthredinifera</i> | sawfly orchid | | |
| | <i>Serapias parviflora</i> | small-flowered tongue-orchid | | |
| Oxalidaceae | <i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i> | Bermuda buttercup | | |
| Palmaceae | <i>Chamaerops humilis</i> | dwarf fan-palm | CC | |
| Papaveraceae | <i>Chelidonium majus</i> | greater celandine | AG | |
| | <i>Glaucium flavum</i> | yellow horned-poppy | EG BL | |
| | <i>Papaver rhoeas</i> | common poppy | | |
| Phytolaccaceae | <i>Phytolacca arborea</i> | ombu | MG (planted) | |
| Plantaginaceae | <i>Plantago afra</i> | | AG | |
| | <i>Plantago bellardii</i> | | MG | |
| | <i>Plantago coronopus</i> | buck's-horn plantain | | |
| | <i>Plantago crassifolia</i> | | SB EG | |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------|
| Plumbaginaceae | <i>Plantago lagopus</i> | | CC F |
| | <i>Limonium echioides</i> | | CC BC |
| | <i>Limonium minutum (EB)</i> | | SB EG |
| Poaceae | <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> | marram grass | EG CC |
| | <i>Ampelodesmos mauritanicus</i> | | EC AG |
| | <i>Arundo donax</i> | giant reed | SB EG |
| | <i>Elymus farctus</i> | sea couch-grass | |
| | <i>Hordeum murinum</i> | wall barley | |
| | <i>Lagurus ovatus</i> | hare's-foot grass | |
| | <i>Lamarckia aurea</i> | golden dog's-tail | |
| | <i>Phragmites australis</i> | common reed | |
| | <i>Polygonum maritimum</i> | sea knotgrass | EG |
| Polygonaceae | <i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i> | | AG |
| Posidoniaceae | <i>Posidonia oceanica</i> | Neptune-weed | |
| Primulaceae | <i>Anagallis arvensis</i> | scarlet pimpernel (red and blue varieties) | |
| Rafflesiaceae | <i>Cytinus ruber</i> | | SR |
| Ranunculaceae | <i>Clematis cirrhosa</i> | maiden's-bower | MG BL |
| | <i>Ranunculus aquatilis</i> | common water-crowfoot | T |
| Resedaceae | <i>Reseda alba</i> | white mignonette | |
| Rhamnaceae | <i>Rhamnus alaternus</i> | Mediterranean buckthorn | |
| Rosaceae | <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> | hawthorn | |
| | <i>Prunus spinosa</i> | blackthorn | |
| | <i>Rubus ulmifolius</i> | bramble | |
| | <i>Sanguisorba minor</i> | salad burnet | |
| Rubiaceae | <i>Galium aparine</i> | cleavers | |
| | <i>Rubia peregrina</i> | wild madder | |
| | <i>Sherardia arvensis</i> | field madder | |
| Santalaceae | <i>Osiris alba</i> | | SR |
| Scrophulariaceae | <i>Bellardia trixago</i> | | |
| | <i>Misopates orontium</i> | weasel's-snout | |
| | <i>Parentucellia viscosa</i> | yellow bartsia | |
| | <i>Scrophularia auriculata</i> | water figwort | AG |
| | <i>Scrophularia peregrina</i> | | |
| | <i>Verbascum creticum</i> | | CCo |
| | <i>Verbascum sinuatum</i> | | |
| Smilacaceae | <i>Smilax aspera</i> | | |
| Tamaricaceae | <i>Tamarix africana</i> | | SB |
| | <i>Tamarix gallica</i> | tamarisk | EG |
| Urticaceae | <i>Parietaria judaica</i> | pellitory-of-the-wall | |
| Valerianaceae | <i>Urtica membranacea</i> | | |
| | <i>Centranthus calcitrapae</i> | annual red-valerian | SB AG |



Branched broomrape; asphodels; tassel hyacinth.