

Peloponnese

Autumn Bulbs of Sparta

A Greentours Trip Report

29th October to 5th November 2016

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Daily Reports & Systematic Lists by Alice Hunter

Day 1 Saturday 29th October UK to Greece

The group arrived from London and Belgium at Athens airport. We loaded up and drove a couple of hours to the village of Kefalari in the mountains west of Corinth. On route a few clumps of *Cyclamen* were spotted at high speed on the verge, a welcome sign for the week ahead. We dropped our bags at the hotel before our first tasty dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 2 Sunday 30th October Mycenae & journey to Gythio

We were wakened by church bells to a clear blue sky and enjoyed a wonderful selection of homemade breakfast options before setting off to find some flowers. We passed through some beautiful scenery with stunning autumn colours in the vineyards complementing the surrounding trees, all against an impressive mountain backdrop.

Emerging over the summit of a pass above Psari, we were greeted with a fantastic vista over the valley below. We made our first stop a short distance further down the mountainside where we found our first flowers of the trip along the rocky verge. Tiny *Colchicum cupanii* and *Cyclamen graecum* nestled amongst aromatic Sages and Thymes which filled the warm air with aromatic scents. A Painted Lady nectared on the tiny blooms while Ravens and a Sparrowhawk wheeled overhead.

Continuing on our journey we stopped again at the bottom of the mountain. Here, *Sternbergia lutea ssp. sicula* were growing in clusters under an olive tree at the top of a steep bank while *Convolvulus althaeoides* bloomed against the road edge. The sunshine had brought out a number of butterflies too including Large and Small Whites, Common Blue, Brown Argus and a tiny Geranium Bronze.

The next stop on our journey was the ancient site of Mycenae, where the gigantic architecture of the main wall and impressive Lion Gate was juxtaposed by the dainty beauty of *Cyclamen graecum*, *Scilla autumnalis* and abundant *Calendula arvensis*. *Arisarum vulgare* proliferated in the sheltered spots while a few sparse flowers of *Onosma frutescens* and a lone *Campanula rupestris* clung on in the last of the warm weather. Having wandered the ruins for an hour or so we enjoyed a pleasant lunch on the terrace of a restaurant in the modern village of Mycenae a little way down the hill.

Moving on once more we passed the impressive hilltop fortification of Larissa Castle near Argos and continued into the mountains to the north of Sparta. Here we made a final floral stop for the day at a roadside spot where we had hoped for a good display of *Sternbergia lutea sicula*. Unfortunately we soon discovered that most had already gone over but all was not lost as we did find a few in decent condition as well as the pure white *Crocus hadriaticus* and unmistakable *Crocus biflorus melantherus* with their distinctive black anthers. A couple of sheltered spots beneath the scrub yielded *Iris unguicularis* blooming early and the area was littered with Earth Star fungi. A very large Mediterranean Banded Centipede (*Scolopendra cingulata*) was discovered emerging from between mosses and lichens that covered much of the ground and a beautiful Leopard Snake (*Zamenis situla*), with rust red patterning, was spotted basking against a rock.

Tearing ourselves away from exploring the hillside we climbed back into the vans for the final leg of our journey through Sparta and on to the coastal fishing town of Gythio where we checked in to the Hotel Pantheon before walking along the sea front to a restaurant for dinner.

Day 3 Monday 31st October Monemvasia

Waking to torrential rain it was decided to head east in an attempt to avoid the worst of the weather. Despite the downpour, a Kingfisher was spotted flying across the harbour in front of the hotel which seemed a hopeful start to a slightly less enticing day weather-wise. Our first stop of the day was just outside Gythio at a spot overlooking Valtaki beach, where the wreck of the Dimitrios lies just offshore in shallow water. We had stopped to look at *Narcissus tazetta* which were joined by *Crocus boryi*, *Allium callimischon* and *Cyclamen graecum*. Although the rain had eased to a gentle drizzle by now the damp conditions were not good for photography and it was decided that we would try to return later in the week on a brighter day. Before we moved on however, we were lucky to find Oleander Hawkmoth caterpillars feeding in a bush near the vans. These chunky caterpillars were a treat to see, bright green with vibrant turquoise false eyes and were a highlight for the morning.

Driving on, we rounded the coast to find a great lump of rock sticking out of the sea and topped with a fortified wall. This was Monemvasia, the town with only one entrance. The sea itself was quite fierce and we continued down the coast to Agias Foukas where a tiny chapel stood in a cemetery atop a small rock in the sea, accessed only by a narrow causeway which the waves were crashing over. Despite the blustery weather we decided to brave it and have our picnic lunch here while the rain held off. There were some interesting things to be found including familiar *Glaucium flavum* in flower and the seed heads of Sea Daffodil (*Pancratium maritimum*) and Rock Samphire. There was just time to pluck a few shells from the beach before we headed back inland and wound our way uphill among the olive groves. Before long, the small clumps of *Cyclamen* glimpsed occasionally on the side of the road became more frequent until they were carpeting the banks beneath the olive trees. Climbing higher still, we stopped where the sweetly scented swathes of *Cyclamen hederifolium crassifolium* stretched almost as far as the eye could see along the terraced hillside.

Continuing on up the hill we made another stop by a small chapel where we found lots of white *Crocus goulimyi leucanthus*. We enjoyed wandering amongst them and the view back down to the coast below.

Retracing our route back down the hill we returned to Monemvasia and entered through the austere walls via the only gate to find quaint cobbled streets beyond with picture perfect houses complete

with contented cats dozing next to manicured window boxes. After a short wander through the town, many of the group retired to the warmth of a coffee shop before returning to Gythio just as darkness set in.

Day 4 Tuesday 1st November Northern Mani

A much brighter dawn than the previous day with only a few clouds in the sky and a very much calmer sea suggested we were in for a good day ahead. We set out southwards and made our first stop on the roadside where our attention was initially drawn by some rather handsome goats being herded into an enclosure on the hillside below us - every bit the picture of rural Grecian life.

Over the road was the true reason for our stop here; *Colchicum psaridis* nestled in the grassy verge alongside *Crocus boryi*, *Crocus goulimyi* and *Allium callimischon*. A striking Swallowtail caterpillar was spotted among the stems of a Fennel plant and Ravens tumbled in a large flock against the mountainside. Walking further up the road we continued to find more of the same plants along with leaves of a *Biarum* and Asphodels as well as Sea Squill just emerging from their enormous bulbs. More of the *Arisarum vulgare* seen at Mycenae was found and Sardinian Warblers sung from the thick cover of *Euphorbia dendroides*. Turning back towards the vehicles we began to see quite a few different invertebrates too including large millipedes, one of which gave the perfect demonstration of their coiling defensive mechanism when a car drove past. There were also Dor Beetles and Glowworms as well as a very large Carabid beetle by a memorial beside the road. A desiccated but very pretty iridescent green Chafer was also found.

Moving on, our next stop was another roadside exploration only a short distance away where *Crocus niveus* proliferated along the verge among prickly shrubs and crumbling terraces. We mostly saw white examples but there were some pale purple among them and one particular cluster which perfectly illustrated the characteristic branched styles and large flower cup of this species. Here and there *Scilla autumnalis* bloomed and once again Sardinian Warblers proved elusive among the olive branches.

The sun was shining and there were butterflies zipping around at high speed. The most common seemed to be Red Admiral and Clouded Yellow with Painted Lady and Eastern Bath White also present. There were lots of beetles flying around too as well as a variety of birds including Crag Martins, Blackcaps, Sardinian Warbler, Robins, Greenfinches and Corn Bunting. Beneath the olive trees here we were in for a real treat as thousands of *Sternbergia*, *Cyclamen graecum*, *Crocus niveus* and *Scilla autumnalis* provided a colourful carpet and a wonderful spectacle.

Tearing ourselves away from these floral delights we moved on to Kelefa Castle where we found a few tiny *Narcissus serotinus* in slightly poorer condition than we had hoped. Amongst rather prickly shrubs we came across some small Autumn Lady's Tresses, some better than others, and a large gravid female Praying Mantis. There were a few *Crocus boryi* here too and *Coridothymus capitatus* made for a lovely scent when brushing past. Several more praying mantis and a variety of beetles were found amongst the undergrowth and a male Red Veined Darter dragonfly (*Sympetrum fonscolombii*) was discovered on some tall grasses in the ditch beside the road. A few of the group climbed to the top of the ramparts for a good view over the coast beyond though, the wall being narrow, did not linger long.

Having passed some more of the Narcissus a short way up the road we returned to the spot and

wandered there for a while. Here the delicate daffodils were in better condition and far more numerous. A Squinting Cucumber (*Echballium elaterium*) lived up to its name and a mass of Fire Bugs swarmed over the leaves of another without fruit. We discovered a Sardinian Warbler that was less shy here, allowing some of the group a better view as it hopped among spiny Genistas.

The afternoon still being relatively young we took a trip to the small island on the southern edge of Gythio where a lighthouse stands guard over the bay. It is linked to the mainland by a narrow causeway and is a popular destination for locals to fish off the rocks. Walking up towards the lighthouse there were *Cyclamen graecum* and *Crocus boryi* beneath the pine trees. A Black Redstart bobbed atop the Tzannetakis Tower and a Kingfisher zipped over our heads with a fish in its beak. *Capparis spinosa* grew on the jagged rocks beneath the lighthouse and we spent a short while enjoying the pleasant evening air and the view over the town as the sun lowered in the sky.

Day 5 Wednesday 2nd November Mystras

The day began with another clear sky and we set out for a morning at the ancient citadel of Mystras to the west of Sparta. On the way in we got beautiful clear views of a Western Rock Nuthatch preening in the branches of a small tree growing from the top of the gate. Above the arch of the gate was a good specimen of *Campanula versicolor*. In sunny spots on some of the lower walls Greek Rock Lizards (*Hellenolacerta graeca*) and Peloponnese Wall Lizards (*Podarcis peloponnesiacus*) skittered around. Elsewhere were *Cyclamen hederifolium* and smatterings of *Calendula arvensis* being visited by a variety of butterflies including Comma, Red Admiral, Clouded Yellow, Small White, Brown Argus, Small Copper and Wall Brown as well as Hummingbird Hawkmoths. Buzzards soared overhead and Cetti's Warbler sung from a nearby olive grove while a Redstart picked insects out of the air from the top of the citadel walls.

Having spent a couple of pleasant hours exploring we set off once more into the Taygetos mountains up the Langada Pass. The road wound along the edge of a steeply sided and very deep ravine passing round hairpin bends and under impressive overhangs. As we climbed, the valley became shallowed and the pines gave way to Oriental Plane trees, bronze and golden in the autumn sunlight. We stopped at the small church of Panagitsa where we had a picnic and wandered under the magnificent trees where we found a wide selection of fungi in the damp conditions. Unfortunately despite the damp underfoot there was no sign of fire salamanders no matter where we looked, but there was a lovely display of *Galanthus reginae-olgae*. We looked at the diversity of *Cyclamen hederifolium* leaf patterns and noted evidence of Wild Boar digging near the stream. We also came across a Western Conifer Seed Bug, an invasive species native to North America.

We enjoyed the scenery and warm afternoon light while driving back to Gythio and arrived in time to enjoy a drink on the waterfront watching the light fade.

Day 6 Thursday 3rd November Mani

Another cloudless dawn over the bay at Gythio promised much and we began the day by returning to the spot above the wreck at Valtaki to explore further. The *Narcissus tazetta* looked even more glorious in the sunshine and a single clump of *Sternbergia* flourished in the gravel under the crash barrier. An adjacent gully yielded trees draped in masses of *Clematis cirrhosa* and *Ephedra foemina* showed yellow

male flowers on one side of the road and ripe red fruit on the female on the other side. Several instars of Swallowtail caterpillar were discovered on a single Fennel plant and Plain Tigers flapped in an apparently lazy fashion overhead. There were other butterflies too including Lang's Short-tailed Blue, Common Blue, Painted Lady, Large Wall Brown, Eastern Bath White, Small White, Red Admiral and Clouded Yellow. There was also a Silver Y moth and a number of micromoths among the vegetation. A Cetti's Warbler joined Sardinian Warbler in song and a female Redstart flew from the wires above us to snatch insects in mid-air. The Oleander Hawkmoth caterpillars which we had found earlier in the week were still present and a couple more were spotted too. One of the larger caterpillars which we had seen previously had changed colour to a dark orange and charcoal prior to pupation. Turning around we once again headed south to a roadside spot where we found stunning groups of *Colchicum parlattoris*. Further along the same stretch we had passed *Narcissus serotinus*, *Cyclamen graecum* and *Crocus boryi*, and seen lots of Plain Tiger butterflies which now flapped around our heads along with iridescent green Chafers which were far more noisy and ungainly in flight. A cicada larval case was found among dry grass stems and one of the group found and caught a large Glass Lizard to show everyone.

The next leg of our journey took us further south. We passed a Jackal skulking through the undergrowth and a Blue Rock Thrush was spotted on a rocky outcrop just below the hilltop village of Vathia. We stopped for lunch just above the village where we had a fantastic view over its traditional square towers to the coast beyond. There were very few flowers to be seen but a single Swallow flew over and Quail were put up from the undergrowth. A nearby *Quercus ithaburensis* yielded beautiful acorn cups which looked more like a dried flower with their long, curled scales.

After lunch we drove on south to the Death Oracle and the Gate of Hades at Cape Tanaeron. Just above the village of Kokkinogia which overlooks the ancient site, a Short Toed Eagle was spotted. The Oracle is now the remains of a Byzantine church which was built on the site of the Oracle itself using the materials of the original building. The Gate of Hades is a series of caves accessed behind the pebble beach, from a small gulley which is shaded by fig trees. *Capparis spinosa*, *Ephedra foemina* and *Limonium virgatum* clung to the rough rocky shoreline while *Scilla autumnalis* and *Colchicum parlattoris* were scattered amongst the dry grasses above. There were lots of insects around including Red Winged Grasshoppers (*Oedipoda germanica*), Mediterranean Slant-faced Grasshoppers (*Acrida ungarica*) and a number of butterflies including more of the lovely Plain Tigers we had been seeing all day, Brown Argus, Red Admiral and Painted Lady. There were a few birds seen too with Stonechat perching atop dry thistle spikes, Linnets and Rock Thrushes.

Moving on once again we paused briefly above the village again to see a flock of Corn Buntings and a couple of Crested Lark beside the road. We drove back along the east coast of the peninsula and through a spectacular landscape with astonishing terraced slopes plunging almost to sea level where sheltered coves harboured sailing boats. The view looking north was very atmospheric with cloud steadily descending the mountainous coastline. We were soon driving through it; a thunderstorm with heavy rain but thankfully localised and short-lived. We continued on up the coast to the village of Kotronas where we had a lovely stop right on the beach for drinks and shell hunting. The recent stormy weather had washed up Tusk Shells and a tiny green sea urchin among other treasures and the brief stop was welcomed by all. We arrived back in Gythio just as it was getting dark.

Day 7**Friday 4th November****Lambokambos**

The day began with an amazing red sunrise but the beauty barely lasted beyond breakfast as the clouds rolled in and a thunderstorm brewed. Luggage was loaded into the vans during a brief respite when the rain slowed to a drizzle and before long we were on the road. We headed northeast to a roadside spot between the villages of Agios Dimitros Zarakos and Kremasti. The scrub here was different to what we had seen elsewhere with a heather (*Erica manipuliflora*) base interspersed with *Euphorbia rigida* and Strawberry Trees (*Arbutus andrachne*) which were laden with red berries and had a beautiful glow to their rust red bark in the damp conditions. We had stopped to look at Crocus and were not disappointed with three species present, *Crocus niveus*, *Crocus hadriaticus* and new for the trip, *Crocus cancellatus*. Among the heather a little white scabious was still flowering (*Lomelosia argentea*) and a small pink Daphne-like flower, *Putoria calabrica*, gave a clue to its name as it was found to smell like rotting cabbages. A less pungent discovery came in the form of a fresh Praying Mantis egg case among the heather and a Crested Lark was spotted.

Our next stop was the famed "Crocus village". The rain eased as we parked up and walked back through the village to admire the *Crocus goulimyi* which were springing up all over the place. Yet more Oleander Hawkmoth caterpillars were found in a bush against a small white house. We took a path through a couple of small fields where the Crocuses were particularly thick and a Hummingbird Hawkmoth flitted between them. There were lovely patches of *Cyclamen graecum* nestled against the base of a stone wall and a particularly noisy Jay shrieked from a nearby tree. Walking on round to an old threshing circle we found more Crocuses coming up between the neatly laid stones. Here, *Crocus goulimyi* was joined by *Crocus boryi* and *Crocus laeviagtus* making a nice spot for some clear comparisons. Walking back to the vehicles a Goldcrest was spotted foraging in a maple tree while a Redstart bobbed its characteristic dance atop a ruined building and a Red Admiral made the most of the break in the weather.

Moving on once more, we drove to a spot overlooking the southern side of the village of Kremasti. Here we had a pleasant lunch under a roadside shelter and made the most of our last stop of the day. A short way up the verge *Crocus biflorus melantherus* was found flowering and a Short-toed Eagle soared on the breeze overhead. A couple of stunningly marked Spurge Hawkmoth caterpillars were found feeding on *Euphorbia rigida* and a Violet Oil Beetle (*Meloe violaceus*) was spotted below the shelter.

With still some distance to travel to our hotel for the night in Kefalari we were soon back on the road heading north. Along the way we had fantastic views of the Taygetos mountain range rising above the clouds like a mystical landscape painting. We enjoyed a delicious last meal together at the local restaurant.

Day 8**Saturday 5th November****To Athens and home**

We said farewell to a sunny Kefalari and, after a photo under the majestic Plane tree outside the hotel, set off for the airport. The sunshine lit up the autumn colours wonderfully and on the way down the hill to the motorway we caught a glimpse of a Black Kite circling above a golden vineyard; a fittingly beautiful end to the week.

Systematic List Number 1 Plants

BULBOUS PLANTS

Amaryllidaceae

Galanthus reginae-olgae

Narcissus serotinus

Narcissus tazetta

Sternbergia lutea sicula

Langada pass

Kelefa, Vathi

Valtaki

Galatas, Mycenae, Charouda

Araceae

Arisarum vulgare

Friar's Cowl

Mycenae, Mani

Iridaceae

Crocus biflorus ssp. melantherus

Crocus boryi

Crocus cancellatus

Crocus goulimyi

Crocus goulimyi ssp. leucanthus

Crocus hadriaticus

Crocus laevigatus

Crocus niveus

Above Sparta, Kremasti

Widespread

Near Kremasti

Mani, Lambokambos

Foutia

Above Sparta, near Kremasti

Lambokambos

Southern Mani, near Kremasti,

Lambokambos

Above Sparta

Iris unguicularis cratensis

Liliaceae

Allium callimischon

Colchicum cupanii

Colchicum parlattoris

Colchicum psaridis

Scilla autumnalis

Autumn Squill

Scattered in the Mani

Above Galatas

Vathi, Death Oracle

Pass to Areopoli, Kelefa castle

Widespread

Orchidaceae

Spiranthes spiralis

Kelefa castle

Primulaceae

Cyclamen graecum

Cyclamen hederifolium

Cyclamen hederifolium ssp. crassifolium

Widespread

Mystras

Foutia

Other plants seen with flowers

Apiaceae

Foeniculum vulgare

Fennel

Widespread

Apocynaceae

Nerium oleander

Oleander

Valtaki, Lambokambos

Asteraceae

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>Bellis sylvestris</i> | | Above Galatas |
| <i>Calendula arvensis</i> | Field marigold | Mycenae, Mystras |
| <i>Cichorium intybus</i> | Chicory | Widespread on grassy road banks |
| <i>Dittrichia viscosa</i> | Sticky Fleabane | Widespread |
| <i>Phagnalon graecum</i> | | Mycenae |

Borraginaceae

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|----------------|
| <i>Heliotropium hirsutissimum</i> | | Near Areopolis |
| <i>Onosma frutescens</i> | | Mycenae |

Campanulaceae

| | | |
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| <i>Campanula andrewsii</i> | | Mycenae |
| <i>Campanula versicolor</i> | | Mystras |

Convolvulaceae

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| <i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i> | | Galatas, Vathi |
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Cucurbitaceae

| | | |
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| <i>Ecballium elaterium</i> | Squirting Cucumber | Widespread |
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Dipsacaceae

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|---------------|
| <i>Lomelosia argentea</i> | | Near Kremasti |
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Ephedraceae

| | | |
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| <i>Ephedra foemina</i> | | Mycenae, Valtaki, Death Oracle |
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Ericaceae

| | | |
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| <i>Arbutus andrachne</i> | | Near Kremasti |
| <i>Erica manipuliflora</i> | | Near Kremasti |

Fabaceae

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------|---------|
| <i>Cercis siliquastrum</i> | Judas Tree | Mystras |
|----------------------------|------------|---------|

Lamiaceae

| | | |
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| <i>Coridothymus capitatus</i> | | Above Galatas, Kelefa |
| <i>Micromeria juliana</i> | | Near Areopolis |
| <i>Salvia verbenaca</i> | | Above Sparta |

Malvaceae

| | | |
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| <i>Malva sylvestris</i> | | Above Sparta |
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Papaveraceae

| | | |
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| <i>Glaucium flavum</i> | Yellow Horned Poppy | Agias Foukas |
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Plumbaginaceae

| | | |
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| <i>Limonium virgatum</i> | | Death Oracle |
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Ranunculaceae*Clematis cirrhosa*

Valtaki

Rosaceae*Rubus sanctus*

Blackberry

Widespread

Rubiaceae*Putoria calabrica*

Near Kremasti

Scrophulariaceae*Verbascum sinuatum*

Widespread

Solanaceae*Solanum nigrum*

Widespread

Zygophyllaceae*Tibulus terrestris*

Caltrops or Devil's Thorn

Mycenae

Trees, bushes and other plants without flowers**Araceae***Biarum tenuifolium*

Mani

Apiaceae*Ferula communis*

Giant Fennel

Scattered

Anacardiaceae*Pistacia terebinthus*

Widespread

Asteraceae*Ptilostemon chamaepeuce*

Valtaki, Monemvasia, Vathia

Cactaceae*Opuntia ficus-indica*

Prickly Pear

Widespread

Capparaceae*Capparis spinosa*

Caper

Gythio lighthouse, Death Oracle

Ericaceae*Arbutus andrachne*

Near Kremasti

Euphorbiaceae*Euphorbia acanthothamnos*

Greek Spiny Spurge

Widespread

Euphorbia dendroides

Tree Spurge

Mani

Euphorbia rigida

Narrow-leaved Glaucous Spurge

Widespread

Fabaceae*Ceratonia siliqua*

Carob

Above Galatas

Fagaceae*Quercus coccifera*

Widespread

Quercus ithaburensis

Vathia

Gymnospermae*Abies cephalonica*

Greek Fir

Langada pass

Cupressus sempervirens

Italian Cypress

Widespread

Lamiaceae*Ballota acetabulosa*

Widespread

Phlomis fruticosa

Widespread

Liliaceae*Asparagus acutifolius*

Widespread

Asphodelus ramosus

Widespread

Pancratium maritimum

Sea Daffodil

Agias Foukas

Moraceae*Ficus carica*

Fig Tree

Scattered

Platanaceae*Platanus orientalis*

Oriental Plane

Widespread

Rosaceae*Sarcopoterium spinosum*

Spiny Burnet

Widespread

Saxifragaceae*Saxifraga rotundifolia*

Round-Leaved Saxifrage

Langada pass

Umbelliferae*Crithmum maritimum*

Rock Samphire

Agios Foukas, Death Oracle

Systematic List Number 2 Butterflies

Papilionidae

Papilio machaon Swallowtail Caterpillars at Valtaki and near Areopolis

Pieridae

Colias crocea Clouded Yellow Widespread
Pieris brassicae Large White Scattered
Pieris rapae Small White Widespread

Lycaenidae

Aricia agestis Brown Argus Galatas, Mystras
Cacyreus marshalli Geranium Bronze Galatas
Leptotes pirithous Lang's Short-tailed Blue Valtaki
Polyommatus icarus Common Blue Galatas, Valtaki

Nymphalidae

Danaus chrysippus Plain Tiger Valtaki, Southern Mani
Lasiommata maera Large Wall Brown Valtaki
Lasiommata megera Wall Brown Mystras
Vanessa atalanta Red Admiral Widespread
Vanessa cardui Painted Lady Widespread

Systematic List Number 3

Other Insects

Coleoptera (Beetles)

| | | |
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| <i>Carabus sp.</i> | Carabid Beetle | Near Areopolis |
| <i>Cebrio sp.</i> | | Near Areopolis |
| <i>Cetonia sp.</i> | Green Chafer | Mani |
| <i>Geotrupes stercorari</i> | Dor Beetle | Near Areopolis, Kelefa |
| <i>Lampyrus noctiluca</i> | Glow Worm | Near Areopolis |
| <i>Meloe violaceus</i> | Violet Oil Beetle | Above Kremasti |
| <i>Scarabaeus sp.</i> | | Kelefa |

Diptera (Flies)

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------|
| <i>Panorpa communis</i> | Common Scorpion Fly | Mycenae |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------|

Dictyoptera (Praying Mantids)

| | | |
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| <i>Mantis religiosa</i> | | Kelefa, Mystras, Valtaki, Vathi |
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Hemiptera (True Bugs)

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| <i>Corizus hyoscyami</i> | Cinnamon Bug | Widespread |
| <i>Leptoglossus occidentalis</i> | Western Conifer Seed Bug | Langada pass |
| <i>Pyrhocoris apterus</i> | Fire Bug | Widespread |

Hymenoptera (Bees & Wasps)

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <i>Vespa crabro</i> | European Hornet | Mystras |
| <i>Xylocopa sp.</i> | Carpenter Bee | Above Galatas |

Lepidoptera (Moths)

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <i>Autographa gamma</i> | Silver Y | Valtaki |
| <i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i> | Hummingbird Hawkmoth | Mystras, Githio, Lambokambos |
| <i>Celerio euphorbiae</i> | Spurge Hawkmoth | caterpillars above Kremasti |
| <i>Daphnis nerii</i> | Oleander Hawkmoth | caterpillars at Valtaki & Lambokambos |

Myriapoda (Centipedes & Millipedes)

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| <i>Scolopendra cingulata</i> | Mediterranean Banded Centipede | Above Sparta |
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Orthoptera (Crickets & Grasshoppers)

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| <i>Oedipoda germanica</i> | Red winged Grasshopper | Widespread |
| <i>Acrida ungarica</i> | Mediterranean Slant-Faced Grasshopper | Death Oracle |

Odonata (Dragonflies)

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| <i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i> | Red-veined Darter | Kelefa |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|--------|

Systematic List Number 4 Reptiles

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| <i>Hellenolacerta graeca</i> | Greek Rock Lizard | Mystras |
| <i>Podarcis peloponnesiacus</i> | Peloponnese Wall Lizard | Mystras |
| <i>Pseudopus apodous</i> | Glass Lizard | Vathi |
| <i>Zamenis situla</i> | Leopard Snake | Above Sparta |

Systematic List Number 5 **Birds**

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Accipiter nissus</i> | Sparrowhawk | Above Galatas |
| <i>Alcedo at this</i> | Common Kingfisher | Gythio |
| <i>Anthus pratensis</i> | Meadow Pipit | near Areopolis |
| <i>Buteo buteo</i> | Common Buzzard | Widespread |
| <i>Carduelis cannabina</i> | Linnet | Death Oracle |
| <i>Carduelis carduelis</i> | Goldfinch | Widespread |
| <i>Chloris chloris</i> | Greenfinch | near Agias Foukas |
| <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> | Black-headed Gull | Gythio |
| <i>Circaetus gallicus</i> | Short-toed Eagle | Death Oracle, above Kremasti |
| <i>Columba livia</i> | Rock Dove | Mani |
| <i>Corvus corax</i> | Raven | above Galatas, near Areopolis |
| <i>Corvus cornix</i> | Hooded Crow | Widespread |
| <i>Coturnix coturnix</i> | Quail | Vathia, near Galatas |
| <i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i> | Blue Tit | Widespread |
| <i>Emberiza calandra</i> | Corn Bunting | Death Oracle |
| <i>Erithacus rubella</i> | Robin | Numerous & widespread |
| <i>Falco tinnunculus</i> | Kestrel | Widespread |
| <i>Fringilla coelebs</i> | Chaffinch | Mycenae |
| <i>Galerida cristata</i> | Crested Lark | Death Oracle, near Kremasti |
| <i>Garrulus glandarius</i> | Jay | Widespread |
| <i>Hirundo rustica</i> | Barn Swallow | Vathia |
| <i>Larus michahellis</i> | Yellow-legged Gull | Gythio |
| <i>Milvus migrans</i> | Black Kite | Near Corinth |
| <i>Monticola solitarius</i> | Blue Rock Thrush | Death Oracle |
| <i>Motacilla alba</i> | White Wagtail | Widespread |
| <i>Motacilla cinerea</i> | Grey Wagtail | Langada pass, Vathia |
| <i>Parus major</i> | Great Tit | Widespread |
| <i>Passer domesticus</i> | House Sparrow | Widespread |
| <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> | Cormorant | Mani |
| <i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i> | Common Redstart | Widespread |
| <i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i> | Black Redstart | Gythio |
| <i>Pica pica</i> | Magpie | Widespread |
| <i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i> | Crag Martin | near Gythio, Charouda |
| <i>Regulus regulus</i> | Goldcrest | Lambokambos |
| <i>Saxicola torquatus</i> | Stonechat | Death Oracle |
| <i>Sitta neumayer</i> | Western Rock Nuthatch | Mycenae, Mystras |
| <i>Streptopelia decoct</i> | Collared Dove | Widespread |
| <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> | Starling | Widespread |
| <i>Sylvia atricapilla</i> | Blackcap | Charouda |
| <i>Sylvia melanocephala</i> | Sardinian Warbler | Widespread |