

The Canary Islands

Naturetrek Tour Report

27 February - 6 March 2009



Monanthes polyphylla



Gallotia atlantica



Canary Island Chat



Cistanche phelpaea

Report and Images compiled by Tony Clarke



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Day 1

Friday 27th February

This year the arrival of the group in the early afternoon meant that there was very little time for any major trip in the afternoon so we went back to the hotel and had a short walk around the well vegetated grounds of the Finca Salamanca where we saw the first surprise of the trip. Mary mentioned having seen a bird she believed to be a Laughing Dove and sure enough there it was for all to see, in fact there were two. This species is very uncommon on Tenerife and was the first one that Tony had seen on his home island. Other than this the few species seen included Grey Wagtail, Blackbird, Blackcap, the recently recognized endemic Canary Islands Chiffchaff, a pair of African Blue Tits of the local race *teneriffae*, and a few Canaries. Not bad considering the time we had available to us today...

Day 2

Saturday 28th February

Our first full day in the field and it was clear that the recent unsettled weather that had been troubling the islands was not over and the conditions were clearly not in our favour. We started our drive up the mountain but the low cloud hindered visibility in places and as we climbed higher the outside temperature began to drop quite dramatically. Once we were over 1800 metres we started to see snow on the sides of the road but luckily it was not enough to cause any problems and was just what was left from a previous fall.

Having passed through the Teide National Park and its spectacular volcanic scenery we stopped for lunch at the Las Lajas Recreation Area where we had our picnic lunch whilst watching the impressive Blue Chaffinch, the local race of Great Spotted Woodpecker with its very dirty looking underparts, a single Raven and a few obliging Canaries.

In the afternoon we returned to the coast and checked the area around Las Galletas where we saw a few waders including Turnstone and Whimbrel. That evening some of the group heard a Long-eared Owl and Tony was fortunate to see one as he drove home.

Day 3

Sunday 1st March

We arrived at about 10.00 at our first stop for the day in the laurel forests around Monte Las Mercedes but unfortunately there were a few people in the barbeque area already which meant that our chances of seeing Bolle's Pigeon were severely reduced. In actual fact we didn't see any at all and with the cool and damp weather we actually saw very little except for a few Canary Island Chiffchaffs, a few Tenerife Kinglets that always seemed to be in the tops of the trees and were continually active, about ten of the local race *Fringilla coelebs tintillon* of Common Chaffinch and a solitary Canary Island Robin which has recently been split by some authorities from the European Robin.

Continuing from here we stopped at the Mirador Lagrimonas where we soon saw the target for this location which was the distinctive Laurel Pigeon with its broad white band on the tail tip. Then just a few hundred metres down the road we stopped again at the Barranco de Ruiz where we saw a couple of Barbary Falcons and quite a few plants including the rare and localised *Limonium arborescens*, the unusual *Aeonium tabuliforme* and *Echium giganteum*.

The lunch stop today was on the track through the laurel forest at Monte del Agua but again the weather conditions weren't good and the expected Bolle's Pigeon never showed. The rest of the afternoon was spent on the north-western extremity of Tenerife at Punta de Teno. Here we saw another pair of Barbary Falcons and a fine selection of plants including *Euphorbia aphylla*, *Euphorbia atropurpurea*, *Sonchus radicans*, *Cheirolophus burchardii*, *Argyranthemum coronopifolium*, *Vieraea laevigata* and *Polycarpha carnosae*. Not a bad day taking all things into consideration.

Day 4

Monday 2nd March

Today we were up early to catch the ferry across to the neighbouring island of La Gomera. On the way across we had some excellent views of the aerobatic capabilities of Cory's Shearwater but the surprise of the trip was a Kittiwake which is rarely seen in the waters around Tenerife. On arrival in San Sebastian, the capital of La Gomera, the rain started and we had to have our picnic lunch in the minibuses. Despite the conditions we did manage to see a few things of interest. One of the highlights for the day was our only Bolle's Pigeons for the tour. We also saw a couple of Tenerife Kinglets at La Laguna Grande where we stopped for the picnic, some nice views of the local race of Chaffinch, a few Canaries and a solitary European Robin.

The highlight of the day was undoubtedly in San Sebastian when we were back on the ferry and awaiting departure. A small group of Plain Swifts could be seen flying around the cliff below the Parador and among them we caught a couple of glimpses of a smaller bird with a white rump. This was thought to be a House Martin but the first detailed view revealed dark underparts with a white throat and a square ended tail, the bird was clearly a Little Swift – a species which is regarded as an accidental vagrant to the Canary Islands.

The return crossing on the ferry was very similar to our experience in the morning with mostly Cory's Shearwaters and a couple of the more unexpected Kittiwakes. The weather not only affected the bird sightings but our limited time in the field decreased the number of plants observed, however we still saw a few interesting species including *Echium acanthocarpum*, *Aeonium subplanum*, *Teline stenopetala*, *Euphorbia broussonetii*, *Sideritis lotsyi*, *Argyranthemum callichrysum*, *Sonchus hierrensis* and the orchids *Habenaria tridactylites* and *Gennaria diphylla*.

Day 5

Tuesday 3rd March

Another early start but this time we had to catch a flight over to Fuerteventura. Once on the island and having collected our vehicles we made our way to Salinas del Carmen and the Barranco de la Torre where we began our exploration of the area. The first of the island specialties that we discovered were a couple of Egyptian Vultures in the nesting area along the Barranco. After lunch at the Salinas del Carmen in the excellent local restaurant Los Caracolitos we visited the inland section of the Barranco where we saw a pair of Canary Island Chats, a species that is confined to Fuerteventura. Also in this area we found Ruddy Shelducks, Black-winged Stilts, a single Wood Sandpiper, Spectacled Warbler and a few Trumpeter Finches. At the Salinas del Carmen there was a small passage of Northern Gannets offshore and about a dozen Sandwich Terns on the rocks.

In the afternoon we made our first visit to the desert plain behind the resort of Costa Calma which proved to be highly successful. We got some great views of Cream-coloured Courser and Black-bellied Sandgrouse but the unquestionable highlight of the afternoon was some fine views of a Houbara Bustard. All in all this was a very good day for everyone and what's more the weather was much better than yesterday.

Day 6

Wednesday 4th March

Today we started on the Costa Calma plain and we were treated to a most unusual sight – two Houbara Bustards were seen very well in flight. We were also able to observe a displaying male as he flung his head onto his back and ran around the desert with his neck feathers fluffed up, looking like some sort of headless chicken. We also saw a few Cream-coloured Coursers and Black-bellied Sandgrouse as well as our first Stone Curlews of the trip.

After breakfast we made a brief visit to the tidal sand flats at Risco del Paso where we saw our only Eurasian Spoonbills and Common Terns of the tour plus a few waders including Sanderling and Kentish Plovers, before continuing south to Morro Jable and the Monk Parakeet colony. These birds put on their usual performance in front of the cameras and then we headed further south on to the Jandia Peninsula. Here within the Parque Nacional de Jandia we found the rare and localized *Euphorbia handiensis* which looks very similar to a Cactus with a thick succulent stem and the leaves reduced to long spines.

After a snack lunch at our hotel we went towards the middle of the island and the reservoir at Rosa de Catalina Garcia but not without a stop en route at La Lajita where we found a couple of Cattle Egrets. On arrival at Catalina Garcia the usual Eurasian Coots were an obvious feature and close inspection added a few Common Moorhens but the most interesting birds were a Spotted Redshank, a Dunlin and at least two Sand Martins. Later in the afternoon we tried the Costra Calma plain again and repeated most of our morning sightings. This area is also quite rich botanically and we saw *Convulvulus caput-medusae*, *Lotus lanzarottensis*, *Ononis hebecarpa* and *Helianthemum canariense*.

Day 7

Thursday 5th March

Our last full day on Fuerteventura started in the same manner as yesterday with a visit to the Costa Calma plain. This morning showed all those who came with us that Houbara Bustard is not seen easily every time you bird this area, as we couldn't find any despite a thorough search. We did see the usual supporting cast and one additional surprise, a Lapwing, a bit of a shock on a desert plain rather than in rural farmland.

After breakfast we headed inland to Vega de Rio Palmas where we walked along the barranco through the tamarisk bushes following a small trickle of running water, a very rare natural feature on Fuerteventura. It was here that we soon located the local race of African Blue Tit *P. u. degener* which differs from that on Tenerife by having a prominent wing-bar and pale tertial fringes. This area was also good for butterflies and dragonflies as there were many Greenish Black-Tips plus a few Saharan Blue-tailed Damselfly *Ischnura sabarensis*, Blue Emperor *Anax imperator* and Epaulet Skimmer *Orthetrum chrysostigma*. From here we returned to the Salinas del Carmen for lunch and this time we located the previously reported male Ring-necked Duck and the three female-type Common Teal with which it was associating. Ring-necked Duck is a Nearctic visitor but is almost annual in occurrence within the Canary Islands.

In the afternoon we returned to the inland section of the Barranco de la Torre where we got some more great views of Canary Islands Chat. The final destination for today was the gardens of our hotel that have in the past produced some interesting sightings and this year was no exception. The highlight was a fine Black Redstart but the supporting cast included Song Thrush and European Chiffchaff both of which are regular winter visitors to Fuerteventura.

Day 8

Friday 6th March

The final day of the tour was consisted of travelling back to the airport and our return journey to the UK...

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Species Accounts

Birds

PROCELLARIIDAE

Cory's Shearwater *Calonectris diomedea borealis*

This year birds were seen from the ferry between Tenerife and La Gomera, off the north coast of Tenerife, off Las Galletas and not least off the east coast of Fuerteventura. Our best views were from the ferry crossing and watching their aerial control and skills was a very memorable experience. The subspecies *borealis*, as a breeding bird, is confined to the Macaronesian Islands of the Azores, Madeira, Selvagens and Canary Islands.

SULIDAE

Northern Gannet *Morus bassanus*

Seventeen were seen off Salinas del Carmen on the 3rd and then one the following day off Morro Jable, both locations on Fuerteventura.

ARDEIDAE

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

Two at La Lajita on the 4th were the only record for the trip, but they are now a regularly seen species on Fuerteventura at this time of year.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

This year recorded on both Tenerife and Fuerteventura but it was certainly much more numerous on the latter of the two islands.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Very scarce this year with just a single individual being seen on Tenerife on the 28th.

THRESKIORNITHIDAE

Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia*

Three on the beach between Risco del Paso and the Hotel Gorriones on Fuerteventura on the 4th were the only ones recorded this year.

ANATIDAE

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*

Only seen on Fuerteventura where most were recorded from Rosa de Catalina Garcia and from the Barranco de la Torre where chicks were observed on our second visit.

Common Teal *Anas crecca*

Three female type birds were in loose association with the following species at Salinas del Carmen on the 5th.

Ring-necked Duck *Aythya collaris*

A fine male was seen on the pool at Salinas del Carmen when exposed by the tide on our penultimate day of the tour. It is a visitor from North America and a rarity on the Canary Islands.

ACCIPTRIDAE

Egyptian Vulture *Neophron percnopterus majorensis*

Two adults were seen well both perched and in flight at the Barranco de la Torre nesting site on the 3rd. This subspecies has only been described recently and is confined to the eastern Canary Islands.

Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus granti*

Solitary birds were seen on the 27th and the 1st which is an average for one of these tours. The subspecies *granti* is found on both the Canary Islands and Madeira.

Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo insularum*

This year we only recorded this species on Tenerife and Fuerteventura but the weather was so bad on La Gomera it was no surprise we didn't see it. The subspecies *insularum* is confined to the Canary Islands.

FALCONIDAE

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus canariensis* and *dacotiae*

F. t. canariensis was a common and widespread species on Tenerife and La Gomera.

F. t. dacotiae was not so numerous and only seen on Fuerteventura.

Barbary Falcon *Falco peregrinoides*

Two were seen in the Barranco de Ruiz on the 1st and then later that day we saw another two at Punta de Teno. Later in the week we saw another individual on the 4th on Fuerteventura.

PHASIANIDAE

Barbary Partridge *Alectoris barbara*

This species was heard on Punta de Teno on the 1st and then two were seen on La Gomera the following day, but unfortunately not everyone saw them.

RALLIDAE

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

The three birds seen were all at Rosa de Catalina Garcia on Fuerteventura.

Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra*

As with the previous species this one was only recorded at Rosa de Catalina Garcia on Fuerteventura, where about 40 birds were present.

OTIDIDAE

Houbara Bustard *Chlamydotis undulata fuertaventurae*

We saw our first bird during the late afternoon of the 3rd on the plain behind Costa

Calma. Then the following morning we saw at least four birds in the same area

including the unusual event of being able to observe to birds in flight at close range.

We also saw a male in display which is becoming a regular feature of this tour in recent years.

RECURVIROSTRIDAE

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

Seven were seen on the small irrigation tank in the Barranco de la Torre and then eight were present at Rosa de Catalina Garcia, both sites were on Fuerteventura.

BURHINIDAE

Stone-curlew *Burhinus oedicnemus insularum*

As with last year this species took a bit of finding, but we did get some good views of a few in the early mornings of the 4th and 5th. This subspecies is endemic to the eastern Canary Islands.

GLAREOLIDAE

Cream-coloured Courser *Cursorius cursor*

This species was seen daily in the desert areas in the south of Fuerteventura.

CHARADRIIDAE

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*

This year this species was only recorded from Fuerteventura.

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*

Only recorded from Fuerteventura when birds were seen at the Salinas del Carmen on the 3rd and 5th.

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*

Only seen on Fuerteventura where birds were recorded from Rosa de Catalina Garcia and on the beach at Risco del Paso.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

The only one recorded on the tour was a lone individual at Salinas del Carmen on Fuerteventura.

Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*

We discovered one during our early morning excursion into the desert area behind Costa Calma on our final full day on Fuerteventura.

SCOLOPACIDAE

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

The only records were one at Las Galletas on Tenerife and then one at Risco del Paso on Fuerteventura on the 5th.

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

One was seen on Fuerteventura, a winter plumaged bird at Rosa de Catalina Garcia on the 4th.

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Only recorded at Barranco de la Torre, Fuerteventura where one was seen on our first visit and then two on our second.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

One was seen on the dam along the inland section of the Barranco de la Torre on Fuerteventura on the 3rd.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Rather scarce this year with just one record from the Salinas del Carmen on the 5th. Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

The only records this year were from Las Galletas on Tenerife and Salinas del Carmen on Fuerteventura.

LARIDAE

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*

A few were seen at Salinas del Carmen on the 3rd and then the following day about ten were seen at Risco del Paso and Rosa de Catalina Garcia.

Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michabellis atlantis*

A common and widespread species, which was seen on all the islands visited.

Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*

This is an unusual species in Canary Island waters and we saw three whilst on the ferry on the 2nd.

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*

This year we recorded this species daily on Fuerteventura with a maximum of about 200 on the beach at Risco del Paso on the 4th.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

Half a dozen were seen at Risco del Paso on the 4th.

PTEROCLIDIDAE

Black-bellied Sandgrouse *Pterocles orientalis*

Only recorded on the plains behind Costa Calma where it was seen daily with a maximum of approximately 20 seen on the 4th.

COLUMBIDAE

Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon *Columba livia*

Feral Pigeon was recorded on all days of the tour but some genuine looking Rock Doves were seen in the mountainous regions of Tenerife, particularly at Punta de Teno.

Bolle's Pigeon *Columba bollii*

Three were seen on La Gomera on the 2nd although the views were not good and they were not seen by everyone. This species is endemic to the western Canary Islands.

Laurel Pigeon *Columba junoniae*

We had some great views of this species on Tenerife at Mirador de Lagrimona on the 1st. As with the previous species this is a western Canary Islands endemic.

Laughing Dove *Streptopelia senegalensis*

One of the surprises of the tour when we saw two in the grounds of the Finca Salamanca on Tenerife and then one was seen at Vega de Rio Palmas on Fuerteventura on the 5th.

Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*

Seen on most days and on all islands visited, not so many years ago this was a rare bird in the islands.

Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*

The only record of this species was two on Fuerteventura on the 5th.

PSITTACIDAE

Monk Parakeet *Myiopsitta monachus*

At least 20 birds were seen around the hotels on the outskirts of Morro Jable, Fuerteventura.

APODIDAE

Plain Swift *Apus unicolor*

Seen on all the main islands visited but it was nowhere common and indeed it was rather scarce this year.

Pallid Swift *Apus pallidus*

Four were seen during our last full day on Fuerteventura.

Little Swift *Apus affinis*

One was seen around the cliff below the Parador Hotel in the harbour on La Gomera on the 2nd. This species is a major rarity in the islands and a description has been submitted.

UPUPIDAE

Hoopoe *Upupa epops*

This species was seen daily on Fuerteventura but it was not common on any date.

PICIDAE

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major canariensis*

This year only one was seen at the Las Lajas picnic area on Tenerife whilst we were having our lunch, the views were excellent. This endemic subspecies is dirtier on the underparts than the form in the UK.

ALAUDIDAE

Lesser Short-toed Lark *Calandrella rufescens polatzeki*

This is a fairly common and widespread bird on Fuerteventura and we got some good views of a few birds on the desert plain behind Costa Calma.

HIRUNDINIDAE

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

Two or more were seen at Rosa de Catalina Garcia on the 4th.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

This species was seen on all of our days on Fuerteventura with a maximum of ten or more on the 4th.

Common House Martin *Delichon urbica*

Also recorded on all days on Fuerteventura with a maximum of about twenty on the 4th.

MOTACILLIDAE

Berthelot's Pipit *Anthus berthelotii berthelotii*

We saw this species on only five dates this year but it was seen daily in small numbers on Fuerteventura. This, the nominate subspecies, is found on the Ilheus Selvagens as well as on the Canary Islands. The species is endemic to the Macaronesian Islands as it is also found on Madeira.

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba alba*

One was seen on Fuerteventura on the 5th.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea canariensis*

This endemic subspecies was recorded only from Tenerife and only a small number were recorded in total.

TURDIDAE

Canary Island Robin *Erithacus superbus*

Rather rare this year and only seen in the Barranco de Ruiz on the 1st, others were heard at alternate locations. This recent split is endemic to Tenerife and Gran Canaria.

European Robin *Erithacus rubecula*

One was seen in the Garajonay National Park on La Gomera on the 2nd and then one was in the hotel gardens on Fuerteventura on the 5th.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochrurus*

One was seen on the grass by the pool at the Hotel Sol Gorriones on the afternoon of the 5th.

Canary Islands Stonechat *Saxicola dacotiae*

This species is confined to the island of Fuerteventura where we recorded it along the Barranco de la Torre on the 3rd and the 5th.

Common Blackbird *Turdus merula cabreriae*

This endemic subspecies was a common feature of the avifauna on both Tenerife and La Gomera.

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*

This species is a scarce winter visitor to the islands. We saw two in the gardens of the Hotel Sol Gorriones on the 5th.

SYLVIIDAE

Spectacled Warbler *Sylvia conspicillata orbitalis*

Our only records this year were from Fuerteventura where it was a fairly common resident.

Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala leucogastra*

This species was heard on Tenerife but the only birds seen were at Vega de Rio Palmas on Fuerteventura on the 5th. This subspecies is confined to the Canary Islands but the taxonomy of this bird within the islands is uncertain.

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla heimeken*

This form which is also found in mainland Spain and in North Africa is a fairly common resident on Tenerife and La Gomera. We also recorded this species on Fuerteventura but the subspecies there is unknown.

Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*

Three were seen in the gardens of the Hotel Sol Gorriones on Fuerteventura on the 5th.

Canary Islands Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus canariensis*

This recently recognised endemic species is probably one of the commonest birds on both Tenerife and La Gomera.

Tenerife Kinglet *Regulus teneriffae*

This year we saw this species on our visit to the Monte Las Mercedes area of Tenerife on the 1st and then the following day in the Garajonay National Park on La Gomera.

PARIDAE

African Blue Tit *Cyanistes teneriffae teneriffae* and *degener*

The *teneriffae* subspecies was common in the forested areas of Tenerife and La Gomera but the *degener* subspecies is a rare and localised bird on Fuerteventura which we only located near Vega de Rio Palmas.

LANIIDAE

Southern Grey Shrike *Lanius meridionalis koenigi*

Only recorded on Fuerteventura where it was seen daily and is a fairly common and widespread species.

CORVIDAE

Common Raven *Corvus corax tingitanus*

One was seen at Las Lajas on Tenerife but it was much more numerous on Fuerteventura where we saw it daily with a maximum of 15+ on the 5th.

PASSERIDAE

Spanish Sparrow *Passer hispaniolensis*

Rather unusually we only heard this species on Tenerife but we saw it daily on Fuerteventura. It is very common around the hotel on Fuerteventura which is no surprise as its name is taken from the Spanish for sparrow which is Gorrion.

FRINGILLIDAE

Common Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs tintillon*

This subspecies which is found on the central Canary Islands was seen well by everybody at Monte Las Mercedes on Tenerife and in the Garajonay National Park on La Gomera.

Blue Chaffinch *Fringilla teydea teydea*

This year we only saw this species on the second day at the Las Lajas recreation area. As usual the birds performed well and gave ample opportunity for those with cameras.

Serin *Serinus serinus*

This species was heard on Tenerife on the 1st.

Atlantic Canary *Serinus canaria*

Common and widespread on both Tenerife and La Gomera. This species is endemic to the Macaronesian Islands of Azores, Madeira and Canary Islands.

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis parva*

This year only recorded from Fuerteventura in the valley at Vega de Rio Palmas where we saw a small group on the 5th.

Linnet *Acanthis cannabina barterti*

This year we only saw this species on Fuerteventura where it could be seen with relative ease around the hotel or in the plantation at Costa Calma.

Trumpeter Finch *Bucanetes githagineus amantum*

Only recorded from Fuerteventura where we saw in excess of 10 birds in the Barranco de La Torre on the morning of the 3rd.

Plant List

Bold type = a Canary Islands endemic

BOLD TYPE = an island endemic

* = an Atlantic Island endemic

English names follow those used in Flora of the Canary Islands (Pocket Guide) by David Bramwell

Order and scientific names follow Die Kosmos-Kanarenflora by Peter and Ingrid Schönfelder

PINACEAE

Pinus canariensis (**Canary Islands Pine**) **common on Tenerife**

SALICACEAE

*Salix canariensis** (Canary Willow) La Gomera

MYRICACEAE

Myrica faya common in areas of Laurel forest

URTICACEAE

Parietaria filamentosa (Canarian Wall Pellitory) Punta de Teno

Urtica morifolia common and widespread

Gesnouinia arborea (Tree Pellitory) Tenerife and La Gomera - laurel forests

Forsskahlea angustifolia

(Narrow-leaved Forskolea) common on all islands visited

POLYGONACEAE

Rumex lunaria (**Canary Islands Sorrel**) common on all islands visited

Rumex vesicarius

CHENOPODIACEAE

Suaeda maritima Fuerteventura

Atriplex glauca ssp. *ifniensis* Fuerteventura coastal zone

Salsola vermiculata Fuerteventura coastal zone

Traganum moquini Fuerteventura coastal zone

Patellifolia patellaris Tenerife and Fuerteventura coastal zone

*Patellifolia procumbens** Tenerife and Fuerteventura coastal zone

AMARANTHACEAE

Achyranthes aspera fairly common Tenerife

AIZOACEAE

Aizoon canariense common on Tenerife and Fuerteventura

Mesembryanthemum nodiflorum common on Tenerife and Fuerteventura

Mesembryanthemum crystallinum (Ice Plant) common on Tenerife and Fuerteventura

CARYOPHYLLACEAE

Polycarpaea nivea fairly common on Tenerife and Fuerteventura

*Polycarpaea carnos*a (**Succulent All-Seed**) **Punta de Teno**

RANUNCULACEAE

*Ranunculus cortusifolius**

(Atlantic Islands Buttercup) Tenerife

LAURACEAE

*Appolonias barbujana** Tenerife and La Gomera

*Laurus novocanariensis** (Canarian Laurel) Tenerife and La Gomera

*Persea indica** Tenerife and La Gomera

PAPAVERACEAE

Eschscholzia californica (California Poppy) common introduction on Tenerife

BRASSICACEAE

DESCURAINIA BOURGEOUANA Cañadas del Teide
Descurainia millefolia (Canary Flixweed) Tenerife and La Gomera
 ERYSIMUM SCOPARIUM
 (Canary Island Wallflower) Cañadas del Teide
Erysimum bicolor Tenerife and La Gomera
Lobularia canariensis (Canary Islands Alison) Tenerife and La Gomera
CRAMBE SCABERRIMA Punta de Teno
Hirschfeldia incana common and widespread, introduced weed

CRASSULACEAE

AEONIUM CANARIENSE Tenerife
AEONIUM SUBPLANUM common on La Gomera
 AEONIUM TABULAEFORME
 (Saucer Houseleek) Barranco de Ruiz and Punta de Teno
Aeonium holochrysum common on Tenerife and La Gomera
Aeonium urbicum (Giant Houseleek) common on Tenerife
Aeonium sedifolium Punta de Teno
Greenovia aurea (Golden Houseleek) common on Tenerife
Greenovia diplocycla on roadside cliffs on La Gomera
Monanthes laxiflora roadside cliffs in laurel zones
Monanthes polyphylla Punta de Teno
Monanthes pallens Punta de Teno
Aichryson laxum (Annual Houseleek) Tenerife and La Gomera in laurel zone

ROSACEAE

Marcetella moquiniana (Red Shrubby Burnet) Tenerife north coast
Prunus lusitanica ssp *hixa* laurel forests of Tenerife
Rubus ulmifolius common on Tenerife and La Gomera
Geum urbanum common and widespread

FABACEAE

Chamaecytisus proliferus (**Tagasaste**) common on Tenerife and La Gomera
Spartocytisus supranubius (Teide White Broom) Las Lajas, Cañadas del Teide
Teline canariensis common on Tenerife and La Gomera
Teline stenopetala La Gomera
Ulex europaeus (Gorse) common on Tenerife
Spartum junceum Tenerife
Adenocarpus foliolosus (Sticky Broom) common on Tenerife and La Gomera
Adenocarpus viscosus (Teide Sticky Broom) Cañadas del Teide

<i>Psoralea bituminosa</i> (Pitch Trefoil)	common on all islands visited
Ononis hebecarpa (Sticky Restharrow)	Costa Calma plain
<i>Ononis natrix</i> (Large Yellow Restharrow)	Fuerteventura
Lotus lanzarottensis	Costa Calma plain
<i>Lotus sessilifolius</i>	common on Tenerife
<i>Trifolium tomentosum</i> (Woolly Clover)	Tenerife
<i>Cassia didymobotrya</i>	introduced on Tenerife and Fuerteventura
<i>Acacia cyclops</i>	introduced on Fuerteventura

OXALIDACEAE

<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i> (Bermuda Buttercup)	common introduction from South Africa
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GERANIACEAE

<i>Geranium canariense</i> (Canary Islands Cranesbill)	common in the laurel zone
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ZYGOPHYLLACEAE

<i>Fagonia albiflora</i>	Tenerife and Fuerteventura
<i>Zygophyllum fontanesii</i> (Canarian Bean-Caper)	coastal areas on Tenerife and Fuerteventura

EUPHORBIACEAE

<i>Euphorbia balsamifera</i>	common on all islands visited
<i>Euphorbia regis-jubae</i>	
(Common Canary Spurge)	common on Fuerteventura
Euphorbia broussonetii	common on Tenerife and La Gomera
Euphorbia aphylla (Leafless Spurge)	Punta del Teno
<i>Euphorbia canariensis</i>	
(Canary Islands Cactus-Spurge)	common on all islands visited
EUPHORBIA HANDIENSIS	Punta de Jandia, Fuerteventura
<i>Ricinus communis</i> (Castor Oil Plant)	seen on all islands visited

AQUIFOLIACEAE

<i>Ilex perado platyphylla</i> * (Broad-leaved Holly)	Anaga Peninsula
Ilex canariensis	Tenerife and La Gomera

MALVACEAE

Lavatera acerifolia (Canary Tree Mallow)	Punta de Teno
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GUTTIFERAE

<i>Hypericum grandifolium</i> *	
(Large-leaved St. John's Wort)	Tenerife
<i>Hypericum reflexum</i> * (Reflexed St. John's Wort)	Tenerife

CISTACEAE

<i>Cistus monspeliensis</i> (Narrow-leaved Cistus)	common on Tenerife and La Gomera
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Helianthemum canariense
(Canary Island Rockrose)

Fuerteventura

TAMARICACEAE

Tamarix canariensis (Canary Island Tamarisk) Tenerife and Fuerteventura

FRANKENIACEAE

Frankenia laevis (Canary Islands Sea Heath) common on Tenerife and Fuerteventura

CACTACEAE

Opuntia ficus-indica (Prickly Pear) common introduction on all islands visited

Opuntia dillenii introduction seen on Tenerife

ARALIACEAE

Hedera canariensis found in the laurel zones on Tenerife and La Gomera

APIACEAE

Astydamia latifolia (Canary Samphire) common on all islands visited

Ferula linkii **Tenerife and La Gomera**

ERICACEAE

Erica arborea (Tree Heath) common Tenerife and La Gomera

PRIMULACEAE

Anagallis arvensis (Scarlet Pimpernel) common on Tenerife and La Gomera

PLUMBAGINACEAE

LIMONIUM FRUTICANS

(Tenerife Sea-Lavender) **Punta del Teno**

LIMONIUM ARBORESCENS Barranco de Ruiz

Limonium pectinatum (Dwarf Sea-Lavender) common on Tenerife and Fuerteventura

ASCLEPIADACEAE

Periploca laevigata **common on all islands visited**

Ceropegia dichotoma (Tenerife Wax Plant) Punta de Teno

RUBIACEAE

Galium aparine **Tenerife**

Plocama pendula (**Balo**) **common on all islands visited**

Phyllis nobla* (Capitana) common in laurel zones

CONVOLVULACEAE

Convolvulus floridus (Canary Tree Bindweed) Barranco de Ruiz

Convolvulus caput-medusae (Dwarf Sea-Bindweed)	Fuerteventura
Convolvulus althaeoides (Mallow-leaved Bindweed)	common on all islands visited
Cuscuta sp. (Dodder)	Fuerteventura
BORAGINACEAE	
Heliotropium bacciferum	Tenerife and Fuerteventura
Myosotis latifolia	frequent in the laurel zones
Echium aculeatum	common on Tenerife and La Gomera
ECHIUM GIGANTEUM (Giant White Bugloss)	Barranco de Ruiz
ECHIUM WILDPRETHII (Teide Bugloss)	Cañadas del Teide
Echium decaisnei (Gran Canaria Bugloss)	common on Fuerteventura
ECHIUM VIRESCENS (Tenerife Viper's Bugloss)	above Güímar
ECHIUM ACANTHOCARPUM (Gomeran Bugloss)	El Cedro area of La Gomera
Echium platagineum (Purple Viper's Bugloss)	abundant on all islands visited
Echium strictum (Rough-leaved Bugloss)	Punta de Teno
LAMIACEAE	
SIDERITIS LOTSZYI	Los Roques de La Gomera
SIDERITIS CRETICA (Teno False Sage)	Punta de Teno
Micromeria varia (Common Canary Savory)	Punta de Teno
Lavandula minutolii	Tenerife
Lavandula canariensis (Canary Islands Lavender)	common on Tenerife and La Gomera
LAVANDULA BUCHII	Punta de Teno
SOLANACEAE	
Datura stramonium (Thornapple)	introduced, seen on Tenerife and Fuerteventura
Lycium intricatum	Tenerife and Fuerteventura
Nicotiana glauca	introduced pest, common on all islands
SCROPHULARIACEAE	
Scrophularia smithii (Canary Figwort)	roadsides near Las Mercedes
Scrophularia glabrata	Teide National Park
OROBANCHACEAE	
Cistanche phelipaea	Fuerteventura
PLANTAGINACEAE	
Plantago lanceolata	Tenerife and La Gomera
Plantago aschersonii	Punta del Teno

CAPRIFOLIACEAE

Viburnum rigidum

(Canary Islands Guelder Rose) areas with laurel forest

DIPSACACEAE

PTEROCEPHALUS LASIOSPERMUS

Mount Teide

CAMPANULACEAE

Canarina canariensis (Canary Bell-Flower) Anaga Peninsula

ASTERACEAE

Ageratina adenophora common introduction from Mexico

Kleinia neriifolia

(Canary Islands Candle Plant) common on all islands visited

Schizogyne sericea (**Canary Samphire**) **coastal zones of all islands****Vieraea laevigata** (Tenerife Samphire) Punta de Teno

Nauplius aquaticus common on all islands visited

NAUPLIUS SERICEUS

(Fuerteventura Sea-Daisy)**Fuerteventura (in the hills)****Argyranthemum frutescens** (Paris Daisy) Tenerife and La Gomera, common**ARGYRANTHEMUM TENERIFE** Teide National Park**ARGYRANTHEMUM CALLICHRYSUM**

(Gomera Yellow Daisy) La Gomera

ARGYRANTHEMUM CORONOPIFOLIUM ?

(Buenavista Daisy) Punta de Teno

Argyranthemum broussonetii Tenerife and La Gomera, laurel zone**Artemisia canariensis** common on Tenerife and La Gomera**Reichardia ligulata** Punta de Teno**PERICALLIS STEETZII** (Gomera Cineraria) La Gomera**PERICALLIS ECHINATA** Punta de Teno**Pericallis tussilaginis** (Coltsfoot Cineraria) Tenerife

Carlina salicifolia* (Canary Carline Thistle) common on all islands visited

Galactites tomentosa common on all islands visited

Silybum marianum Tenerife

CHEIROLOPHUS BURCHARDII

(Teno Knapweed)**Punta de Teno**

Centaurea melitensis Tenerife

Launaea arborescens

(Spiny Lettuce or Barbed-Wire Bush) common on all islands visited

Sonchus congestus (**Anaga Sow-Thistle**) **common in laurel zone, Tenerife****Sonchus hierrensis** common on La Gomera**Sonchus acaulis** (Stemless Sow-Thistle) common on Tenerife**SONCHUS RADICATUS** (Tuberous Sow-Thistle) Punta de Teno

Atalanthus pinnatus

(Fennel-leaved Sow-Thistle) Tenerife
Andryala pinnatifida (Canary Mouse-Ear) common all islands visited

ASPHODELACEAE

Asphodelus aestivus (Common Asphodel) Tenerife
 Asphodelus tenuifolius (Annual Asphodel) Tenerife and La Gomera
 Aloe vera introduced
 Aloe succotrina introduced

DRACAENACEAE

Dracaena draco* (Dragon Tree) Chinamada

AGAVACEAE

Agave americana (Century Plant) introduced
 Agave attenuate introduced

ARECACEAE

Phoenix canariensis (**Canary Islands Date Palm**) **seen on all islands visited**

ORCHIDACEAE

Gennaria diphylla Los Roques (La Gomera)
 Habenaria tridactylites (**Canary Twayblade**) **Los Roques**

POACEAE

Pennisetum setaceum common pest on Tenerife and La Gomera
 Avena canariensis Tenerife
 Arundo donax Tenerife
 Phragmites communis Fuerteventura

SELAGINELLACEAE

Selaginella denticulata fairly common

BLECHNACEAE

Woodwardia radicans Anaga Peninsula

DAVALLIACEAE

Davallia canariensis fairly common

HYPOLEPIDACEAE

Pteridium aquilinum (Bracken) Tenerife and La Gomera

Butterfly List

PIERIDAE

Small White *Artogeia rapae*

Canary Island Large White *Peiris cheiranthi*

Bath White *Pontia daplidice*

Greenish Black-tip *Elphinstonia charltonia*

Clouded Yellow *Colias crocea*

Cleopatra *Gonopteryx cleopatra cleobule*

LYCAENIDAE

Small Copper *Lycaena phlaeas*

NYMPHALIDAE

Indian Red Admiral *Vanessa indica vulcania*

Painted Lady *Vanessa cardui*

SATYRIDAE

Canary Speckled Wood *Parage xiphioides*

Dragonfly List

COENAGRIONIDAE

Saharan Blue-tailed Damselfly *Ischnura sabarensis*

AESHNIDAE

Blue Emperor *Anax imperator*

Lesser Emperor *Anax parthenope*

LIBELLULIDAE

Broad Scarlet *Crocothemis erythraea*

Epaulet Skimmer *Orthetrum chrysostigma*

Mammal List

Short-finned Pilot Whale *Globiocephala macrorhynchus*

Rabbit

Barbary Ground Squirrel

Reptile List

Canary Lizard *Gallotia galloti*

Atlantic Lizard *Gallotia atlantica*

Tenerife Gecko *Tarentola delalandii*