

The Canary Islands

Naturetrek Tour Report

16th – 23rd February 2022



Euphorbia handiensis



Tenerife Blue Chaffinch



Tenerife Lizard



Gomeran Bugloss

Tour report by Jessica Turner & Paul Harnes. Images by Mike Woods



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Summary

The Canary Islands may be well-known as a general tourist destination, but they contain a wealth of natural treasures, and we were fortunate to experience many of them. Their isolation has given rise to many endemic species and subspecies, of which the great views of Tenerife Blue Chaffinch, the Houbara Bustards, Cream-coloured Coursers and Trumpeter Finches in perfect light were among the highlights. We marvelled over the flora, so different to that of mainland Europe, especially the enormous Sow-thistles and Buglosses. The sea crossing to La Gomera gave great views of Cory's Shearwaters plus a range of Cetaceans, with an exceptional view of a Short-finned Pilot Whale almost under the ferry. We also enjoyed the various species of lizards and Geckos, plus the butterflies and other invertebrates we encountered. We experienced all the seasons, from snow on Teide, fog, thunderstorms and rainbows, and plenty of warm sunshine. With comfortable accommodation, good food and great company, everything contributed to an excellent week.

Day 1

Wednesday 16th February

Fly to Tenerife South - Vilaflor

Four tour group members met with Jessica and Paul at Gatwick's North Terminal for the 1.55pm Easyjet flight to Tenerife South Airport. As we came into land on time, we had excellent, cloud-free views on one side of Tenerife with the top of Mount Teide. We met up with three more group members, who had arrived from Bristol, collected the minibuses, and set off in the evening light for the journey up to Vilaflor. A single Yellow-legged Gull flew through the headlight beams of one bus.

When we arrived, we received a warm welcome, and the group had time to settle in to their rooms, before meeting for a briefing at 8.45pm. We also met up with the remaining two couples, who had spent an extra few days at the hotel, enjoying its charm and beautiful surroundings. After an excellent dinner, we retired to bed, tired after the day's travelling and ready for our island adventures.

Day 2

Thursday 17th February

Anaga Peninsula

Some of the group met with Paul at 7.15am, for a walk round the hotel grounds and surrounding area, while Jessica shopped for the picnic. It was a cold morning (3°C), with a beautiful sunrise, the sun bringing welcome warmth. However, it was quiet, bird-wise, although Collared Dove, African Blue Tit (the Tenerife and La Gomera subspecies *teneriffae*) and Atlantic Canaries were heard, and we looked at the long needles of the Canary Pines (*Pinus canariensis*).

After a delicious breakfast, and with picnic supplies on board, we headed off to visit the north-eastern end of the island on the Anaga Peninsula. We retraced our route towards the coast, noting the terraces, vines and generally arid appearance of the landscape. We stopped just outside Vilaflor to look at Canary Sow-thistle, which is a large bush/small tree, but it was not in flower here. We also noted the white Broom Tagasaste (*Chamaecytisus proliferus*) which was coming into flower, and noted a tiny stock *Matthiola parviflora*, with pale pink-mauve flowers. We

joined the motorway towards Santa Cruz, which we bypassed. Arriving on the peninsula, the contrast of the green forests and the lushness was marked. We first visited the recreation area of Llano de los Viejos, in the Laurisilva woodland. Here we noted Azores Laurel (*Laurus novocanariensis*), some infected with the Laurel Fungus *Laurobasidium lauri*. We also noted Canary Tree Heather (*Erica canariensis*), Canary Island Guelder Rose (*Viburnum rugosum*) and Broad-leaved Holly (*Ilex perado* subsp. *lopezilloi*). Birds included Canary Island Chiffchaffs, Blackbirds (of the Atlantic subspecies *cabrerae*), Common Chaffinch (the central Canary Islands subspecies *canariensis*) and European Robin (Tenerife subspecies *superbus*), and a flock of Plain Swifts circled overhead. Unfortunately, the endemic pigeons were being elusive. Near where we parked was a magnificent Canary Island Bellflower (*Canarina canariensis*), and Jessica explained how Canary Island Chiffchaffs drink the nectar and aid pollination. Next to it was a yellow-flowered Figwort, *Scrophularia smithii*, subsp. *smithii*, a Tenerife endemic which is restricted to the Anaga peninsula. There were fine examples of Mule's Fern (*Asplenium hemionitis*) and Hare's-foot Fern (*Davallia canariensis*), plus, at the back of the site, Kidney-leaved Fern (*Asplenium reniforme*). Canary Red Admirals were enjoying the sun, and we could see how they differed from the 'ordinary' species. On the roof of the toilet block (which was locked) were two of the endemic Sow-thistles, Stemless Sow-thistle (*Sonchus acaulis*), the leaves of which are on the ground, although it has a tall flower stem bearing large, yellow flowers, and *Sonchus leptcephalus*, with very finely divided leaves.

Leaving here, we drove on through the Laurel forest, heading to our next destination of Chinamada. As we started to make our way down the steep roads towards the sea, we noted the massive Chain Fern (*Woodwardia radicans*) cascading down the banks. Just before we reached Chinamada, a house had several enormous, towering, white flowering spikes of Silver Viper's-bugloss (*Echium simplex*). We parked at Chinamada, where we admired a Dragon Tree (*Dracaena draco*) that was much older than the house or garden surrounding it. We had our picnic by the little church, enjoying the local cheeses, wines, figs and bananas among other delights.

We set off along the track, soon finding an amazing array of new species. These included the white Bugloss *Echium leucophaeum*, Rough-leaved Bugloss (*Echium strictum*), the pink 'daisy' *Pericallis tussilaginis*, Stemless Sow-thistle (*Sonchus acaulis*), tiny fronds of the fern Macaronesian Polypody (*Polypodium macaronesicum*), and spikes of Canary Twayblade (*Habenaria tridactylites*), which were, sadly, all over. The banks were starred with the small mauve flowers of Canary Crocus (*Romulea columnae* subsp. *grandiscapa*, not a true Crocus). The Stonecrop family was well represented, with Canary Houseleek (*Aeonium canariensis*), Anaga Houseleek (*Aeonium ciliatum*), with red tinged leaves, *Aichryson parlatorei*, *Monanthes anagensis* and *Monanthes laxiflora*, both slightly trailing, the former with narrower leaves, and the extremely rare *Monanthes wildpretii*, which only grows at Chinamada. There was also Clubmoss Crassula (*Crassula muscoides*), looking like a clubmoss, as well as the true Mediterranean Clubmoss (*Selaginella denticulata*).

Birds included Rock Doves, which were probably true Rock Doves rather than Feral Pigeons, Canary Island Chiffchaff, Sardinian Warbler (the Canary Island subspecies *leucogastra*) and some great views of Barbary Partridge (subspecies *koenigi*, from north-west Morocco and introduced into the Canary Islands) at the edges of the little terraced fields; some were dust bathing. Canary Speckled Woods were on the wing and a Tenerife Canary Brimstone flew overhead. As well as Honey Bees, we found the Canary Bumble Bee, large and black with a white tail, now considered a subspecies of the European White-tailed Bumble Bee complex, and Canary Flower Bee, with its black-and-white striped abdomen. We walked round to the viewpoint over the sea, with an obliging Berthelot's Pipit on the path, and insects were enjoying the flowers of the grey-leaved endemic Lavender, *Lavandula buchii*. Tenerife Lizards were particularly enjoying the stone walls.

We drove back up into the Laurel forest, making our way to the viewpoint of Pico del Ingles, where we could look down over the trees. Unfortunately, the Laurel Pigeons were again elusive, although a Common Buzzard (subspecies *insularum* of the Canary Islands and Azores) circled below us. A roof held the endemic Stemless and Anaga Sow-thistles, as well as large plants of Giant Houseleek (*Aeonium urbicum*). It was then time to take the long journey back to Vilaflor, where we enjoyed another delicious meal and updated our checklists, after a long but excellent day.

Day 3

Friday 18th February

Teno peninsula; Monte del Agua; Masca; Pinar Chio

Today we decided that we would visit the Teno peninsula on the far north-west of Tenerife. This necessitated an early start, as the road out to the point closes to private vehicles at 10am. After breakfast at 7.15am, we left at 8am, taking the road towards Los Cristianos, where we joined the motorway north-west. This reduces to much smaller roads to reach Buenavista del Norte at the base of the peninsula. En route we had a good view of a Northern Raven (endemic subspecies *canariensis*, now split from *tingitanus*). Unfortunately, a road closure increased the time pressure, but when we arrived at the barrier, the road was closed anyway, due to emergency repairs to the netting which prevents the frequent falling rocks blocking the road. However, this was further along, so we could park up and walk the first section safely.

We saw Ravens, a Buzzard and Kestrel and, as we looked up, some glimpsed a Barbary Falcon (now classified as a subspecies of Peregrine Falcon) which soon disappeared over the top, never to reappear. Nearer to hand, there was a lot of passerine activity, with Canary Island Chiffchaffs, Atlantic Canaries, Sardinian Warblers, African Blue Tits, Robin and other birds, some showing well. We found a good range of plants too. Some have a relatively widespread distribution in the island, such as the bush-like Canary Dock (*Rumex lunaria*), the sculptural Canary Island Cactus-spurge (*Euphorbia canariensis*), the narrow-leaved Lamarck's Spurge (*Euphorbia lamarckii*) and the Silk-vine *Periploca laevigata*, which was showing both its green-and-red, waxy flowers and strange horn-like seed pods. Others are more restricted to this area of Tenerife, even just to this peninsula, including the pink-flowered Canary Tree Mallow (*Mahva acaerifolia*), Tenerife Samphire (*Vieraea laevigata*) with yellow daisy-like flowers and the strange pale-green spikes of *Ceropegia dichotoma*. On the cliffs further on, we found Leafless Spurge (*Euphorbia aphylla*), the Thyme-like Common Canary Savory (*Micromeria varia* agg) and the yellow-flowered form of *Euphorbia atropurpurea* (forma *lutea*). It was very windy at the point where we stopped, by a tunnel through the rock, and we could see the men trying to make safe the road. Out to sea were some distant Cory's Shearwaters.

Returning along to Buenavista, we successfully located a supermarket to buy picnic provisions before taking the winding road towards Masca, which climbed steeply into the hills. We turned off this on to a track to Monte del Agua, into a fine area of Laurisilva forest. There was a magnificent display of the beautiful Canary Bellflower (*Canarina canariensis*), with other plants including Canary Island Foxglove (*Digitalis canariensis*, sadly not in flower) Canary Island Crane's-bill (*Geranium reuteri* again, not yet flowering), Canary St. John's-wort (*Hypericum canariensis*), Stemless Sow-thistle (*Sonchus acaulis*), Irish Spleenwort (*Asplenium onopteris*) and Canary Strawberry Tree (*Arbutus canariensis*). Red Admiral and Canary Red Admiral butterflies were on the wing, and some saw a fly-over Bolle's Pigeon.

We continued on the road north, passing *Echium virescens*, *Euphorbia atropurpurea* and Tangier Pea (*Lathyrus tingitanus*). The views were stunning as the road wound round, up and down, towards the busy little village of Masca. We stopped at a layby to enjoy the scenery, before completing the drop down to Santiago del Teide.

We then took the road up to the caldera, passing many plants of Giant Houseleek (*Aeonium urbicum*) with shaggy dead flower spikes, into the 'corona forestal' of Canary Islands Pine, with yellow *Lotus campylocladus* along the verge. We stopped at a picnic site, Pinar Chio, which was closed, but we were able to walk in. Settling ourselves at a reasonable distance from the drinking fountains, we ran some water into the small stone troughs below. Almost immediately Tenerife Blue Chaffinches came down to drink and bathe, and we had excellent views of at least two males and three females. At least three Great Spotted Woodpeckers (subspecies *canariensis*) were in the pines above, and some Canaries came to join the party. Meanwhile, at our feet a Berthelot's Pipit vied for attention and Ravens flew overhead. Eventually, we had to leave this bird-fest, to continue up into the open lava fields of El Teide. We stopped at Boca Tauce to admire the side cone Pico Viejo which erupted in 1909 and the main cone behind, in the evening sun. Plants included the Teide White Broom (*Cytisus supranubius*) and the much smaller Teide Sticky Broom (*Adenocarpus viscosus*), the scabious *Pteroccephalus lasiospermus*, the Flixweed *Descurainia bourgeauana* and Teide Knapweed (*Cheirolophus teydis*), but all of these were just showing leaves and the remains of seed pods. From there it was not far back down to Vilaflor, where we had a break before updating our lists and relaxing over dinner.

Day 4

Saturday 19th February

La Gomera

An early start today saw us on the road at 6.45am, en route in the early dawn, down to the port at Los Cristianos, for the ferry to San Sebastian on the adjacent island of La Gomera. On our arrival at the harbour, Jessica went off to book our tickets, while Paul organised breakfast. From the café we could see Yellow-legged and Lesser Black-backed Gulls.

Once on board the ferry, we made our way to the upper deck to sea watch during the one-hour crossing. As we set off, we noted large numbers of crabs, probably a Tidal Spray species, on the concrete blocks of the harbour wall. Almost immediately, we saw our first whale-blow: a Bryde's Whale (pronounced 'broodus'): quite a number are currently in the area. Later we had clear views of one and could see the back with the small dorsal fin. Several distant Common Dolphins were seen, and other fins which could not be definitively identified. Closer to, we had good views of the back of a Rough-toothed Dolphin. We also saw a pod of Short-finned Pilot Whales, and one came right by the boat, to the joy of those watching that side. We also saw many Cory's Shearwaters, again, with some gliding very close to, as well as others resting on the sea. As well as gulls, a couple of Sandwich Terns were seen.

On our arrival on La Gomera, we made our way out of the harbour, and parked on the edge of the town, where we explored the park. Small Whites were on the wing, and after some searching, we found a couple of tiny African Grass Blues, while at the opposite of the size scale, a majestic Monarch was flying round the flowering trees, landing to give some great views, and later joined by another. Canary Islands Chiffchaff, Blackcap (subspecies *heineken*), African Blue Tit (*teneriffae*), Common Blackbird (*cabreræ*), and Spanish Sparrow were other

species recorded. After a coffee break, while the leaders bought the picnic, we returned to the vehicles to drive up into the hills.

Our first stop was after a road tunnel on the GM-1, where we explored a section of the old road. Kestrel and Ravens flew overhead and the Gomeran subspecies of Canary Island Lavender (*Lavandula canariensis* subsp. *gomerensis*) dotted the cliff face. A male Spectacled Warbler (the Atlantic Islands subspecies *orbitalis*) was singing and eventually showed itself, along with the female. Other plant species included Canary Dock (*Rumex lunaria*), El Cedro False Sage (*Sideritis lotoyi*), Gomeran False Sage (*Sideritis gomerae*), Gomeran Savory (*Micromeria lepida*), and *Ageratina adenophora*, with white flowers. Boettger's Lizards scuttled across the rocks, while insects included Bath White butterfly, Cochineal Scale-insects (on Prickly Pear) and the larval case of a Bagworm (a type of micro-moth).

Continuing higher, we made our way into the laurel forests of the Garajonay National Park, where we stopped at the El Rejo viewpoint for our picnic. As the first minibus pulled in, a Bolle's Pigeon flew low overhead and away. A little way back down the road was the beautiful blue Gomeran Bugloss (*Echium acanthocarpum*), while other species included Canary Laurel (*Persea barbujana*, with its characteristic galls caused by the mite *Aceria barbujanae*), Tree Pellitory (*Gesnouria arborea*), Capitana (*Phyllis nobla*), the large succulent rosettes of the Gomeran endemic variety Flat Houseleek (*Aeonium canariense* subsp. *latifolium*) and the pink Gomeran Cineraria (*Pericallis steetzii*). After much searching, several Laurel Pigeons were seen in flight, rather distantly. We moved on to the Mirador El Bailadero. Here there was a lot of the Gomeran Bugloss, and we also noted *Juniperus cedrus*, hung with Beard Lichen, Golden Hair Lichen and Tree Lungwort lichens. Some of the group remained scanning for pigeons, being rewarded with further views of Laurel Pigeon, while those who walked down the slope saw Barbary Partridge. We also saw Canary Island Holly (*Ilex canariensis*), non-flowering rosettes of both *Aeonium aureum* and probably *Aeonium diplocyclum*, Shepherd's Needles (*Scandix pecten-veneris*), Common Calamint (*Calamintha sylvatica*) and Wild Clary (*Salvia verbenaca*). Nearby, on the verge, were the mauve-flowered *Erysimum virescens*, *Genista stenopetala* and Gomera Yellow Daisy (*Argyranthemum callichrysum*, which is white, despite its name).

As we continued along the loop through the island, dropping down out of the Laurisilva onto the GM-2, we ran into thick cloud, preventing views of Les Roques de Agando, but we dropped down out of it as we returned to the harbour. Unfortunately, the vessel for our return journey was a catamaran, and the limited outdoor space was out of bounds due to the high winds. However, it was a speedier journey, and we were soon back at Los Cristianos, from where we climbed back up to Vilaflor in the evening light, after another excellent day.

Day 5

Sunday 20th February

El Teide, transfer to Fuerteventura; Barranco de Rio Cabras

Today we had to say goodbye to Vilaflor and the Hotel Spa Villalba. After breakfast and to the accompaniment of a Great Spotted Woodpecker, we loaded the minibuses and set off up towards the top of Teide. A short distance up the road we paused to admire a plant of the Teide Bugloss (*Echium wildpretii*, also known as Tower of Jewels) with its enormous spike, the bottom of which, unusually, still bore carmine-coloured flowers (it usually flowers in high summer). We reached the Boca Tauce where we admired the amazing views of the cone and lava fields of Teide, driving past the characteristic plants. We made a stop at Los Roques, feeling the chilly wind and noting dark clouds ahead. As we progressed, we drove into snow and had to proceed very cautiously through the

dramatic landscape. The planned stop at El Portillo was aborted by a good half-inch of lying snow and the toilets being locked, so we continued onwards, passing oncoming emergency vehicles. As we dropped down, the snow turned to rain and was replaced by sun, but the road to the summit was closed, with a large number of vehicles at Aguamansa, who had driven up expecting a sunny Sunday in the caldera. Because of this, we decided not to stop here either, and continued downwards, driving through pines, then Canary Tree Heather and Laurel, and then into Sweet Chestnut (*Castanea sativa*), still without leaves. We carried on through La Orotava, joining the main west-east coast road, round to Tenerife Norte airport, where we checked in and had lunch.

Our 2.20pm flight took us over the northern edge of Gran Canaria, before touching down in the more desert-like island of Fuerteventura at 3.10pm. There was a long queue to get our new minibuses, but eventually we loaded up, and headed for the nearby Barranco de Rio Cabras. Any water attracts wildlife, and we spent about an hour enjoying a lot of avian activity. A pair of Ruddy Shelduck flew off as we arrived and were later seen in flight. At least nine Black-winged Stilts were in the water or on the shore, and we also saw Glossy Ibis, Common Greenshank, Common Sandpiper, Common Snipe, Little Ringed Plovers, Eurasian Hoopoe, Laughing Dove and Collared Doves in the barranco below us. Overhead, we saw several, distant Egyptian Vultures (Canary Islands subspecies *majorensis*), Common Buzzard (*insularum*), Ravens (*canariensis*) and Yellow-legged Gulls. A Grey Heron looked odd perched in the desert, and Berthelot's Pipit and Canary Island Stonechat were nearby, Chris locating a probable nesting spot that we left well alone. Unidentified Hawker dragonflies, possibly Vagrant Emperor, but moving too fast to be certain, added extra interest. Canary Tamarisk (*Tamarix canariensis*) was growing in the barranco.

It was then time to drive south to the Hotel Melia Fuerteventura, our base for the next three nights. After checking in and a little time to settle in to our rooms, we met for dinner in the large restaurant, where we discussed plans for the following morning.

Day 6

Monday 21st February

Costa Calma; Jandia

At 6.45am, we met up outside the hotel for the 10-minute drive to the desert plain behind Costa Calma, to look for desert specialities. As dawn broke, we soon became aware of the start of bird activity with a Great Grey Shrike (Canary subspecies *koenigi*) being seen, along with Ravens and a couple of Rabbits. We could hear the buzzing calls of Mediterranean Short-toed Larks (eastern Canary Islands subspecies *polatzeki*), which we also saw briefly, together with Berthelot's Pipit. Despite much scanning, other birds seemed elusive, until we came across a group of four Houbara Bustards (subspecies *fuerteventurae*), close to the sandy track, giving us amazing views as they wandered, fed and preened, apparently unconcerned by our presence. We returned for a rather late breakfast about 9.30am, seeing two Hoopoes and a Great Grey Shrike on wires on the approach to the hotel.

We met up again at 10.30am, to drive to the Jandia Peninsula in the south of the island, where we looked for and found the very rare and very localised, *Euphorbia handiensis*, a cactus-like species found only in two areas on the Jandia peninsula, and nowhere else on the planet. We also saw Barbed-wire Plant (*Launea arborescens*) with yellow flowers, *Lycium intricatum*, with its fearsome spines and tiny purple flowers, and *Caroxylon vermiculatum*, with tiny succulent leaves, appreciating the growth forms (spines, succulence) needed to survive in the desert with browsing goats. The said goats with kids and also sheep with lambs also provided amusing interest. A couple of

the Fuerteventura subspecies of Atlantic Lizard were seen briefly, and Paul located and caught an East Canary Gecko, which posed on a rock before darting away.

Moving back into Morro Jable, we stopped for a short time near the old zoo, where we had good views of Monk Parakeets, another Glossy Ibis, Cattle Egrets and a Hadada Ibis, now naturalised from the zoo. There were also Plain Swifts, a Common Swift, Barn Swallow and Common House Martins overhead. A drive round the golf course was rather quiet so we then drove north, having lunch at a very good Pizzeria in Costa Calma.

Replete, we drove further north again, to visit some waste ground in La Lajita. This was a fascinating spot, with a couple of water tanks, and we soon had great views of Spectacled Warbler, more Canary Island Stonechats, Eurasian Hoopoes, Common and Little Ringed Plovers, Common Sandpiper, both Cattle and Little Egrets and a Grey Heron. A pair of Linnets (east Canary subspecies *barteri*) came down to drink. Lepidoptera included Painted Lady, Plain Tiger, Hummingbird Hawk-moth and the micro Hawaiian Beet Webworm, and we also found a Southern Green Shield-bug, with an attractive pattern of cream dots on the back, showing it to be a fifth-instar nymph. Dragonflies included the golden-coloured Hawker (possibly a Vagrant Emperor), Blue Emperor, and magnificent, velvety Broad Scarlet, both male and female, at rest. Courgettes and tomatoes were growing lushly round the water tank. As we walked on, to complete a circle, we encountered a flock of Trumpeter Finches (Canary subspecies *amantum*), some of which posed beautifully, giving great views.

We decided to revisit the desert, driving the other way through. We stopped to look at plants, especially the strange *Convolvulus caput-medusae* amongst the bushes of *Salsola divaricata* (slightly larger, succulent leaves), *Caroxylon vermiculata* (very small, glaucous leaves), Canary Bean Caper (*Zygophyllum fontanesii*, quite green and golden succulent leaves) and *Lycium intricatum* (vicious spines, often no leaves). Again, we saw Ravens and Shrikes, but all was rather quiet until two Houbara Bustards were seen in flight. However, they landed out of sight and could not be relocated. As we approached the end, two Black-bellied Sandgrouse were also glimpsed in flight, very briefly and distantly, but they too landed out of sight. A third bird (or one of the first two) did the same. The light was starting to fade so we called it a day, returning to the hotel. After a break, we met to enjoy another good dinner, marked by a celebration birthday cake for Jacki.

Day 7

Tuesday 22nd February

Costa Calma; La Pared; Vega de Rio Palmas; Ajuy

We met again at 6.45am to revisit the desert in the hope of seeing Cream-coloured Coursers. It was grey and hazy and, surprisingly, we did not see any shrikes: we decided they were having a lie-in! However, we had some lovely views of Mediterranean Short-toed Larks, and Kev soon spotted movement, which turned out to be a Courser. We soon had great, extended, if a bit distant, views of at least three birds, re-finding them as they ran through the scrubby bushes. As we returned to the hotel, two Cattle Egrets were balanced on the wires.

After breakfast, we left at 10.30am, heading north-west to La Pared. We left the main road to visit a local goat farm. Ruddy Shelduck were in good numbers, and we also saw White Wagtail, plenty of Spanish Sparrows, Berthelot's Pipit, a pair of Hoopoes, Trumpeter Finches, Canary Island Stonechat and Little Ringed Plover. As we were leaving, a Common House Martin was over a water tank.

We moved on to the town of Pajara, where there was time to explore, visit the church and have coffee while Paul and Jessica shopped for the picnic. Moving on again, we took the winding road through the dramatic hills, passing neat bushes of Balsam Spurge (*Euphorbia balsamifera*), with its blunt leaves, the more straggly Common Canary Spurge (*Euphorbia regis-jubae*, so named as it is common on Gran Canaria) and the not-yet-flowering plants of the endemic yellow daisy *Asteriscus sericeus*. We hoped to have lunch at the hilltop recreation/picnic area of Castillo de Lara, but it was closed due to Covid, so we dropped down onto a piece of waste ground at the top end of Vega de Rio Palmas. Here we were entertained by Barbary Ground Squirrels (this species was introduced in 1965 and is now locally abundant), a Raven with a liking for cake, and a Kestrel (of the east Canaries subspecies *dacotiae*), which had as its lookout the trunk of a dead palm tree. A flock of Plain Swifts hawked overhead, and Greenish Black-tip butterflies were new for the trip. We also found a nymph of a North African species of a Conehead Mantis (*Hypsicorypha gracilis*), while large black ants took a liking to bread and cheese crumbs left from the picnic. A good number of plants of *Scilla latifolia* were on a bank (not in flower), and the pink-flowered Fagonia (*Zygophyllum creticum*) and the hairy Pollen Chafer *Tropinola squalida canariensis* were photographed. We drove further down the valley to take a walk where there is usually some natural running water attracting birds and insects. On this occasion, however, there were just a couple of puddles. Nevertheless, we had good views of Sardinian Warblers and the east Canary Islands subspecies of African Blue Tit (*degener*), with its dark navy cap. Laughing Doves were feeding near the road.

On our return journey we stopped at the Mirador de Las Peñitas, where the Barbary Ground Squirrels and a Berthelot's Pipit around our feet were the main attractions, and a Raven was also seen well. Finally, we visited the little coastal resort of Ajuy, which has particular geological interest, with the oldest rocks of all the islands. Here we were able to enjoy the waves crashing onto the cliffs and a drink or ice cream to round off the trip.

From here we returned to our hotel in time to start packing and freshen up before updating our checklists and having our final dinner together.

Day 8

Wednesday 23rd February

La Barca; Barranco de Rio Cabras; coast near airport; journey home

This morning we met at 7.30am to explore the beach of Playa de la Barca, just behind the hotel. We drove the sandy track through and beyond the hotel premises to an area where we could park and look down on the beach with its shallow little lagoons. We soon saw a flock of Sanderling, Common Ringed Plover and a distant group of Eurasian Spoonbills as well as Yellow-legged and Lesser Black-backed Gulls and Sandwich Terns. However, thunder, lightning and rain had us dashing back to the minibuses at intervals. Round the hotel, a pair of Red-vented Bulbuls were located in a palm tree, and we could see the red vent.

After breakfast at 8.30am, we set off at 9.30 in the direction of the airport. We dropped the first three group members for their 12.50pm flight to Bristol, the rest of us returning to the Barranco de Rio Cabras. Here we saw two adult Egyptian Vultures on an electricity pylon with two dark-coloured youngsters on the wires. A third brown bird of prey on the wires was a Common Buzzard, and when one flew past at close quarters, we could see how the island subspecies is paler than those generally seen in the UK. The Black-winged Stilts were joined by a Green Sandpiper as well as Common Sandpiper and Little Ringed Plover. The Ruddy Shelduck were flying around, and Hoopoe was heard but not seen.

We dropped the next four off at the airport at 1pm for flights to Stansted and Manchester, and the rest of us had lunch in a café just south of the airport runway. Afterwards we drove down to the sea, adding Eurasian Whimbrel and Kentish Plover as well as adult and juvenile Common Ringed Plover, the latter with a broken collar but still with orange legs. A line of three Gannets flew through, and Sandwich Terns were seen. The rest of the group then returned to the airport, where we said goodbye to Jessica who was meeting another group in Gran Canaria, before checking in for the flight to Gatwick.

We all agreed that we had had an excellent week in good company, and had enjoyed some fascinating wildlife and plants, with the magnificent male Blue Chaffinches, Houbara Bustards and Cream-coloured Coursers being particularly special. Paul and Jessica would like to thank the group for their interest, good humour and spotting skills, and we hope to see you again on future occasions.

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Species lists

Birds

		February 2022								
	Common name	Scientific name	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Key: ** = Endemic Species, * = Near Endemic Species (also occurring on Madeira & Azores), I - Introduced, H - Heard, LO - Leader Only										
1	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Barbary Partridge (C.Is-I)	<i>Alectoris barbara koenigi</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			
3	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>						✓		
4	Plain Swift *	<i>Apus unicolor</i>		✓				✓	✓	
5	'Canary Islands' Houbara Bustard	<i>Chlamydotis undulata fuertaventurae</i>						✓		
6	Black-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>						✓		
7	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>		✓	✓	✓				
8	Feral Pigeon - I	<i>Columba livia feral</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Bolle's Pigeon**	<i>Columba bollii</i>			✓	✓				
10	Laurel Pigeon**	<i>Columba junoniae</i>				✓				
11	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	African Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia roseogrisea</i>						✓		
13	Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>					✓		✓	H
14	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>					✓			
15	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>					✓			✓
16	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓
17	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>						✓		✓
18	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>								✓
19	Eurasian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>								✓
20	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>								✓
21	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>								✓
22	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>					✓			
23	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>					✓	✓		✓
24	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>								✓
25	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>					✓			✓
26	Cream-coloured Courser	<i>Cursorius cursor</i>							✓	
27	Yellow-legged Gull (*)	<i>Larus michahellis atlantis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i>		✓	LO					✓
29	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>				✓				✓
30	Cory's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris diomedea borealis</i>			✓	✓				
31	Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>								LO
32	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>					✓	✓		
33	Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>						✓		
34	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>								✓
35	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bulbulcus ibis</i>						✓	✓	✓
36	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>						✓	✓	✓
37	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>					✓	✓		✓
38	Egyptian Vulture (C.Is**)	<i>Neophron percnopterus majorensis</i>					✓		✓	✓
39	Common Buzzard (C.Is**)	<i>Buteo buteo insularum</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
40	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>						✓	✓	H

	Common name	Scientific name	February 2022							
			16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
41	Great Spotted Woodpecker (T**)	<i>Dendrocopos major canariensis</i>			✓		H			
42	Common Kestrel (w.C.Is**)	<i>Falco tinnunculus canariensis</i>		✓	✓	✓				
43	Common Kestrel (e.C.Is**)	<i>Falco tinnunculus dacotiae</i>							✓	
44	Peregrine Falcon (Barbary Falcon)	<i>Falco peregrinus pelegrioides</i>			✓					
45	Monk Parakeet	<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>						✓		
46	Great Grey Shrike (**)	<i>Lanius excubitor koenigi</i>						✓	✓	✓
47	Northern Raven (**)	<i>Corvus corax canariensis</i>			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
48	Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>		✓						
49	African Blue Tit (e.C.Is**)	<i>Cyanistes teneriffae degener</i>							✓	
50	African Blue Tit (T, La G**)	<i>Cyanistes teneriffae teneriffae</i>		✓	✓	✓				
51	Mediterranean Short-toed Lark (e.C**.)	<i>Alaudala rufescens polatzeki</i>						✓	✓	
52	Red-vented Bulbul - I	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>								✓
53	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>						✓		
54	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>						✓	✓	✓
55	Canary Islands Chiffchaff**	<i>Phylloscopus canariensis</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
56	Eurasian Blackcap (sw Iberia & CI)	<i>Sylvia atricapilla heineken</i>				✓				
57	Sardinian Warbler	<i>Curruca melanocephala leucogastra</i>		✓	✓		LO		✓	
58	Spectacled Warbler (C.Is,Mad,CV*)	<i>Curruca conspicillata orbitalis</i>				✓		✓	H	
59	Goldcrest (C.Is**)	<i>Regulus regulus teneriffae</i>			✓					
60	Common Blackbird (C.Is, Mad*)	<i>Turdus merula cabrerae</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			
61	European Robin (T**)	<i>Erithacus rubecula superbus</i>		✓	✓					
62	Canary Islands Stonechat**	<i>Saxicola dacotiae</i>					✓	✓	✓	✓
63	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis</i>		H	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
64	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>				✓	✓			
65	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>			✓				✓	
66	Berthelot's Pipit*	<i>Anthus berthelotii berthelotii</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
67	Common Chaffinch (T, La G**)	<i>Fringilla coelebs canariensis</i>		✓	✓					
68	Tenerife Blue Chaffinch**	<i>Fringilla teydea</i>			✓					
69	Trumpeter Finch (C.Is**)	<i>Bucanetes githagineus amantum</i>						✓	✓	
70	Common Linnet (e.C.Is**)	<i>Linaria cannabina harterti</i>						✓		
71	Atlantic Canary*	<i>Serinus canaria</i>		✓	✓	✓				

Our tour checklist follows the names and taxonomy, including species order, of the International Ornithological Congress list of the birds of the world (version 12.1, Feb 2022) which seems destined to become the global standard in future.

	Common name	Scientific name	February 2022						
			16	17	18	19	20	21	22

			February 2022							
	Common name	Scientific name	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
BUTTERFLIES:										
Key: C= Caterpillar, D= Dead										
1	Small White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
2	Bath White	<i>Pontia daplidice</i>				✓				
3	Greenish Black-tip	<i>Euchloe charlonia</i>							✓	
4	Canary Brimstone (N Tenerife)	<i>Gonepteryx cleobule</i>		✓						
5	African Grass Blue	<i>Zizeeria knysna</i>				✓			✓	
6	Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>		✓	✓				✓	
7	Canary Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa vulcanica</i>		✓	✓					
8	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>						✓	✓	
9	Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>				✓				
10	Plain Tiger	<i>Danaus chrysippus</i>						✓		
11	Canary Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge xiphioides</i>		✓	✓					
MOTHS:										
1	Hawaiian Beet Webworm	<i>Spoladea recurvalis</i>						✓		
2	a Bagworm	<i>Amicta gara</i>				C				
3	Hummingbird Hawk-moth	<i>Nacroglossum stellatarum</i>						✓		
OTHER INVERTEBRATES:										
1	Blue Emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>						✓		
2	Lesser Emperor	<i>Anax parthenope</i>		✓	✓		✓	✓		
3	Vagrant Emperor	<i>Axax ephippiger</i>						?		
4	Broad Scarlet	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>						✓		
5	A Red-winged Grasshopper	<i>Acrotylus insubricus</i>						✓		
6	Sublime Conehead Mantis	<i>Hypsicorypha gracilis</i>							✓	
7	Cochineal Scale-insect	<i>Dactylopius coccus</i>				✓				
8	Southern Green Shieldbug	<i>Nezara viridula</i>						✓		
9	Ant sp.	-		✓						
10	Ant sp.	-							✓	
11	Canary Bumble Bee	<i>Bombus terrestris canariensis</i> **		✓		✓				
12	Canary Flower Bee (w.Ca)	<i>Anthophora alluaudi allaudii</i>		✓		✓				
13	Honey Bee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>		✓	✓	✓				
14	Pollen Chafer	<i>Tropinota squalida canariensis</i>							✓	
15	Darkling Beetle	<i>Pimelia lutaria</i>						D		
16	Chrysomelid Beetle	<i>Chrysomelidae sp.</i>			✓	✓				
17	Harvestman	<i>Opiliones sp.</i>				✓				
18	Tropical Tent Web Spider	<i>Cyrtophora citricola</i>		✓	✓	✓			✓	
19	Spider sp.	-				✓				
20	cf Tidal Spray Crab	<i>Plagusia depressa</i>				✓				
21	A Sally Lightfoot Crab	<i>Grapsus adscensionis</i>				✓				

			February 2022							
	Common name	Scientific name	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Mammals:										
Key: D= Dead										
1	Algerian Hedgehog	<i>Atelerix algirus</i>								D
2	Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>				✓				
3	Dolphin sp.					✓				

			February 2022							
	Common name	Scientific name	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
4	Rough Toothed Dolphin	<i>Steno bredanensis</i>				✓				
5	Dolphin sp.	-				✓				
6	Short-finned Pilot Whale	<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>				✓				
7	Brydes Whale	<i>Baleaenoptera edeni brydei</i>				✓				
8	Barbary Ground Squirrel	<i>Atlantoxerus getulus</i>							✓	
9	Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>		✓				✓	✓	
Amphibians & Reptiles:										
1	Boettger's Lizard	<i>Gallotia caesaris</i>				✓				
2	Tenerife Lizard	<i>Gallotia galloti</i>		✓	✓					
3	Atlantic Lizard	<i>Gallotia atlantica mahoratae</i>						✓	✓	
4	East Canary Gecko	<i>Tarentola angustimentalis</i>						✓		

Plants (* = Atlantic Islands endemic, ** = Canary Islands endemic, *** = Single Island endemic, [] = Introduced or planted)

Scientific name	Common name	Day	Location
PTERIDOPHYTES			
Lycophytes		FERNS & ALLIES	
Selaginellaceae		Clubmosses & Quillworts	
<i>Selaginella denticulata</i>	Lesser Clubmoss Family Mediterranean Clubmoss	2	Chinamada
Leptosporangiate Ferns		True Ferns	
Aspleniaceae		Spleenwort Family	
<i>Asplenium hemionitis</i>	Mule's fern	2	Llano de los Viejos
<i>Asplenium onopteris</i>	Irish Spleenwort	3	Monte del Agua
Blechnaceae		Hard Fern Family	
<i>Woodwardia radicans*</i>	Chain Fern	2	Roadsides - Anaga
Davalliaceae		Hare's-foot Fern Family	
<i>Davallia canariensis*</i>	Hare's-foot Fern	2	Llano de los Viejos
Dennstaedtiaceae		Bracken Family	
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	2	Roadsides - Anaga
Dryopteridaceae		Buckler-fern Family	
<i>Dryopteris ologiodonta</i>	-	4	El Rejo
Polypodiaceae		Polypody Family	
<i>Polypodium macaronesicum*</i>	Macaronesian Polypody	2	Chinamada
Pteridaceae		Ribbon-fern Family	
<i>Adiantum reniforme</i> subsp. <i>reniforme*</i>	Kidney-leaved Fern	2	Llano de los Viejos
GYMNOSPERMS			
Cupressaceae		CONIFERS	
Cypress Family			
<i>Juniperus cedrus*</i>		3	Monte del Agua
<i>Juniperus turbinata</i>		2	Chinamada

Pinaceae	Pine Family		
<i>Pinus canariensis</i> **	Canary Islands Pine	2	S of Vulafloor
ANGIOSPERMS		FLOWERING PLANTS	
Pre-Dicots		Primitive Angiosperms	
Lauraceae	Laurel Family		
<i>Laurus novocanariensis</i> * (<i>L. azorica</i>)	Azores Laurel	2	Llano de los Viejos
<i>Persea (Apollonias) barbujana</i> *	Canary Laurel	4	Mirador El Rejo
Eu-Dicots		True Dicotyledons	
Adoxaceae	Moschatel Family		
<i>Viburnum rugosum (V.rigidum)**</i>	Canary Island Guelder Rose	2	Llano de los Viejos
Aizoaceae	Dewplant Family		
<i>Aizoon canariense</i>	-	6	Jandia Peninsula
<i>Sesuvium portulacastrum</i>	Shoreline Purslane	6	La Lajita
Amaranthaceae (Chenopodiaceae)	Goosefoot Family		
<i>Achyranthes aspera</i>	Devil's Coach-whip	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
<i>Caroxylon (Salsola) vermiculatum</i>	-	6	Costa Calma desert
<i>Patellifolia procumbens</i>	a Beet	2	Chinamada
<i>Salsola divaricatum**</i>	-	6	Costa Calma desert
<i>Suaeda maritima</i>	Annual Sea-blite	6	La Lajita
Anacardiaceae	Sumach Family		
[<i>Pistacia terebinthus</i>]	Turpentine Bush	3	Teno Peninsula
Apiaceae	Carrot Family		
<i>Astydamia latifolia</i>	Canary Samphire	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Athamanta (Tinguarra) cerviariifolia**</i>	-	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Bupleurum salicifolium*</i>	-	2	Chinamada
<i>Canaria tortuosa (Seseli webbii)**</i>	-	2	Chinamada
<i>Drusa glandulosa</i>	-	3	Monte del Agua
<i>Ferula linkii**</i>	-	3	Roadsides near Masca
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel	2	Chinamada
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	Shepherd's Needle	4	Mirador El Bailadero
<i>Todaroa aurea**</i>	-	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
Apocynaceae	Periwinkle Family		
<i>Calotropis procera</i>	Apple of Sodom	6	Morro Jable
<i>Ceropegia dichotoma**</i>	Tenerife Wax Plant	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Periploca laevigata*</i>	Silk Vine	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Vinca major</i>	Greater Periwinkle	3	Monte del Agua
Aquifoliaceae	Holly Family		
<i>Ilex canariensis**</i>	Canary Island Holly	4	Mirador El Bailadero
<i>Ilex perado</i> ssp. <i>lopezlilloi</i> (ssp. <i>platyphylla</i>)**	Broad-leaved Holly	2	Llano de los Viejos
Araliaceae	Ivy Family		
<i>Hedera canariensis**</i>	Canary Ivy	2	Llano de los Viejos
Asteraceae (Compositae)	Daisy Family		

<i>Ageratina adenophora</i>	-	3	Radsides near Masca
<i>Allagopappus canariensis</i> (<i>A. dichotomus</i>)**	-	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
<i>Andryala pinnatifida</i> **	-	2	Chinamada
<i>Argyranthemum callichrysum</i> ***	Gomera Yellow Daisy	4	By Mirador El Bailadero
<i>Argyranthemum frutescens</i> agg.**	Paris Daisy	2	Anaga
<i>Argyranthemum gracile</i> ***	-	2	S of Vilaflor
<i>Artemisia thuscula</i> (<i>A. canariensis</i>)**	-	2	Chinamada
<i>Asteriscus</i> (<i>Nauplius</i>) <i>sericeus</i> ***	Fuerteventura Sea-daisy	7	Roadsides N of Pajara FV-30
<i>Bidens pilosa</i>	Bur Marigold	2	Mirador Pico del Ingles
<i>Calendula arvensis</i>	Field Marigold	2	S of Vilaflor
<i>Carlina salicifolia</i> *	Canary Carlina Thistle	2	Chinamada
<i>Cheirolophus burchardii</i> ***	Teno Knapweed	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Cheirolophus teydis</i> **	Teide Knapweed	3	Boca Tauce
<i>Cotula australis</i>	a Buttonweed	2	Chinamada
<i>Cynara cardunculus</i>	Cardoon	7	R'sides N of Pajara FV-30 (fruit)
<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	Woody Fleabane	2	S of Vilaflor
<i>Galactites tomentosa</i>	Galactites	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
<i>Gonospermum fruticosum</i> **	Canary Tansy	2	Chinamada
<i>Kleinia neriifolia</i> **	Canary Islands Candle Plant	2	Chinamada
<i>Launaea arborescens</i>	Barbed-Wire Bush	6	Jandia Peninsula
<i>Pericallis steetzii</i> ***	Gomera Cinararia	4	Mirador El Rejo
<i>Pericallis tussilaginis</i> **	-	2	Chinamada
<i>Phagnalon rupestre</i>	Phagnalon	2	S of Vilaflor
<i>Senecio angulatus</i>		2	Chinamada
<i>Sonchus acaulis</i> **	Stemless Sow-thistle	2	Llano de los Viejos
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly Sow-thistle	2	Chinamada
<i>Sonchus canariensis</i> **	Canary Sow-thistle	2	S of Vilaflor
<i>Sonchus (Atalanthus) capillaris</i> **	-	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Sonchus congestus</i> **	Anaga Sow-thistle	2	Chinamada
<i>Sonchus hierrensis</i> **	-	4	Mirador El Rejo
<i>Sonchus leptocephalus</i> (<i>Atalanthus pinnatus</i>)**	-	2	Llano de los Viejos - (leaves)
<i>Sonchus radicans</i> ***	Tuberous Sow-thistle	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Urospermum picroides</i>	-	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Vieraea laevigata</i> ***	Tenerife Samphire	3	Teno Peninsula
Boraginaceae	Borage Family		
<i>Echium acanthocarpum</i> ***	Gomera Bugloss	4	Mirador El Bailadero
<i>Echium leucophaeum</i> ***	-	2	Chinamada
<i>Echium simplex</i> ***	Silver Viper's-bugloss	2	Chinamada
<i>Echium strictum</i> **	Rough-leaved Bugloss	2	Chinamada
<i>Echium virescens</i> ***	Tenerife Viper's-bugloss	2	S of Vilaflor
<i>Echium wildpretii</i> subsp. <i>wildpretii</i> ***	Teide Bugloss	5	N of Vilaflor
<i>Heliotropium ramosissimum</i>	-	6	Jandia Peninsula
Brassicaceae	Cabbage Family		
<i>Crambe scaberrima</i> ***	-	3	Teno Peninsula (leaves)
<i>Descurania bourgeauana</i> **	-	3	Boca Tauce
<i>Descurainia millefolia</i> **	Canary Flixweed	2	Chinamada
<i>Erysimum virescens</i> (<i>E. bicolor</i>)**	-	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Hirschfeldia incana</i>	Hoary Mustard	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Lobularia canariensis</i> *	Canary Islands Alison	2	Chinamada
<i>Matthiola parviflora</i>		2	S of Vilaflor

Cactaceae	Cactus Family		
<i>[Opuntia dellinii]</i>	-	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>[Opuntia ficus-indica]</i>	Barbary Fig	3	Teno Peninsula
Campanulaceae	Bellflower Family		
<i>Canarina canariensis</i> **	Canary Bellflower	2	Llano de los Viejos
Caprifoliaceae	Honeysuckle Family		
<i>Centranthus ruber</i>	Red Valerian	5	Roadsides
<i>Pterocephalus lasiospermus</i> ***	-	3	Boca Tauce
<i>Pterocephalus virens</i> ***	-	2	Chinamada
Caryophyllaceae	Pink Family		
<i>Cerastium glomeratum</i>	Sticky Mouse-ear	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
<i>Dichranthus plocamoides</i> **	Gomeran All-seed	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
<i>Paronychia canariensis</i> **	-	2	Chinamada
<i>Polycarpaea carnosae</i> **	Succulent All-seed	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Polycarpaea latifolia</i> **	-	2	Chinamada
<i>Polycarpaea nivea</i>	-	2	Chinamada
Casuarinaceae	Sheoak Family		
<i>[Casuarina equisetifolia]</i>	-	6	La Lajita
Cistaceae	Cistus Family		
<i>Cistus monspeliensis</i>	Narrow-leaved Cistus	4	Mirador El Bailadero
<i>Cistus symphytifolius</i> **	Canary Cistus	3	Monte del Agua
Convolvulaceae	Bindweed Family		
<i>Convolvulus althaeoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Bindweed	2	S of Vilaflor
<i>Convolvulus canariensis</i> **	Canary Bindweed	2	Chinamada
<i>Convolvulus caput-medusae</i> **	-	6	Costa Calma Desert
<i>Convolvulus floridus</i> **	Canary Tree Bindweed	7	Vega de Rio Palmas
<i>Cuscuta planiflora</i>	Small-seeded Dodder	2	Chinamada
Crassulaceae	Stonecrop Family		
<i>Aeonium arboreum</i> subsp. <i>holochrysum</i> **	-	4	Mirador El Bailadero
<i>Aeonium (Greenovia) aureum</i> **	Golden Houseleek	4	Mirador El Bailadero
<i>Aeonium canariense</i> **	Canary Houseleek	2	Chinamada
<i>Aeonium c. ssp. latifolium (A. subplanum)</i> ***	Flat Houseleek (La G)	4	Mirador El Rejo
<i>Aeonium ciliatum</i> ***	Anaga Houseleek	2	Chinamada
<i>Aeonium (Greenovia) diplocyclum</i> ***	-	4	Mirador El Rejo?
<i>Aeonium lindleyi</i> subsp. <i>lindleyi</i> ***	-	2	Chinamada
<i>Aeonium tabulaeforme</i> ***	Saucer Houseleek	2	Chinamada
<i>Aeonium urbicum</i> ***	Giant Houseleek	3	Roadsides N of Santiago TF-82
<i>Aichryson laxum</i> **	Annual Houseleek	2	Chinamada
<i>Aichryson parlatorei</i> **	-	2	Chinamada
<i>Crassula multicava</i>	Fairy Crassula	2	Roadside rocks nr Chinamada
<i>Crassula tillaea (C. muscosa)</i>	Mossy Stonecrop	2	Chinamada
<i>Monanthes anagensis</i> ***	-	2	Chinamada
<i>Monanthes laxiflora</i> **	-	2	Chinamada
<i>Monanthes polyphylla</i> ***	-	3	Teno Peninsula

<i>Monanthes wildpretii</i> ***	-	2	Chinamada
Ericaceae	Heather Family		
<i>Arbutus canariensis</i> **	Canary Strawberry Tree	3	Monte del Agua
<i>Erica canariensis</i> **	Canary Tree Heather	2	Llano de los Viejos
<i>Erica platycodon</i> **	Canary Besom Heath	2	Mirador Pico del Ingles
Euphorbiaceae	Spurge Family		
<i>Euphorbia aphylla</i> **	Leafless Spurge	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Euphorbia atropurpurea</i> forma. <i>lutea</i> ***	-	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Euphorbia atropurpurea</i> ***	-	3	Roadsides near Masca
<i>Euphorbia balsamifera</i>	Balsam Spurge	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Euphorbia canariensis</i> **	Canary Island Cactus-spurge	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Euphorbia handiensis</i> ***	-	6	Jandia Peninsula
<i>Euphorbia (broussonetii) lamarckii</i> **	-	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Euphorbia regis-jubae</i> ***	Common Canary Spurge	7	Roadsides N of Pajara FV-30
[<i>Ricinus communis</i>]	Castor Oil Plant	3	Roadside weed, El Tanque
Fabaceae (Leguminosae)	Pea Family		
[<i>Acacia saligna</i>]	Blue-leaf Wattle	7	Vega de Rio Palmas
<i>Adenocarpus foliolosus</i> **	Sticky Broom	2	Chinamada
<i>Adenocarpus viscosus</i> ***	Teide Sticky Broom	3	Boca Tauce
<i>Bitumaria bituminosa</i>	Pitch Trefoil	2	Chinamada
<i>Cytisus (Spartocytisus) supranubius</i> ***	Teide White Broom	3	Boca Tauce
<i>Chamaecytisus proliferus</i> **	Tagasaste	2	S of Vilaflor
<i>Genista (Teline) canariensis</i> **	Canary Broom	2	Chinamada
<i>Genista (Teline) stenopetala</i> **	-	4	By Mirador El Bailadero
<i>Lathyrus tingitanus</i>	Tangier Pea	3	Roadsides near Masca
[<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i>]	River Tamarind	4	San Sebastian
<i>Lotus campylocladus</i> subsp. <i>campylocladus</i> ***	-	3	R'sides nr Boca Tauce TF-38
<i>Lotus lancerottensis</i> *	-	7	Roadsides N of Pajara FV-30
<i>Lotus sessilifolius</i> **	-	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Ononis hesperia</i>	a Yellow Restharrow	6	R'sides access to Hotel Melia
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse	3	Roadsides N of Santiago TF-82
<i>Vicia benghalensis</i>	Bengal Vetch	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
<i>Vicia lutea</i>	Cream Vetch	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-2
Fagaceae	Beech Family		
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut	5	R'side N of Aguamansa TF-21
Geraniaceae	Geranium Family		
<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Stork's-bill	2	S of Vilaflor
<i>Erodium malacoides</i>	Mallow-leaved Stork's-bill	2	Vilaflor
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Cranes-bill	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
<i>Geranium reuteri</i> ** (<i>G. canariense</i>)	Canary Island Crane's-bill	3	Monte del Agua (leaves)
<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	Round-leaved Crane's-bill	4	Mirador El Bailadero
<i>Pelargonium capitatum</i>	Rose Geranium	3	Teno Peninsula
Hypericaceae	St.John's-wort Family		

<i>Hypericum canariense</i> *	Canary St.John's-wort	3	Monte del Agua
<i>Hypericum glandulosum</i> *		3	Monte del Agua
<i>Hypericum grandifolium</i> *		3	Monte del Agua
<i>Hypericum reflexum</i> **	Reflexed St.John's-wort	2	Chinamada
Lamiaceae	Dead-nettle Family		
<i>Bystropogon canariensis</i> **	-	3	Monte del Agua
<i>Calamintha sylvatica</i>	Common Calamint	4	Mirador El Bailadero
<i>Cedronella canariensis</i> *	-	4	By Mirador El Bailadero
<i>Lavandula buchii</i> ***	-	2	Chinamada
<i>Lavandula canariensis</i> subsp. <i>gomerensis</i> ***		4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
<i>Micromeria lepida</i> *** (split fr <i>varia</i>)	Gomera Savory	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
<i>Micromeria varia</i> **	Common Canary Savory	2	Chinamada
<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>	Wild Clary	4	Mirador El Bailadero
<i>Sideritis gomerae</i> ***	Gomera False Sage	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
<i>Sideritis lotsyi</i> **	El Cedro False Sage	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
<i>Sideritis nervosa</i> ***	Wiry False Sage (Teno)	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Stachys arvensis</i>	Field Woundwort	4	Mirador El Bailadero
Malvaceae	Mallow Family		
[<i>Ceiba speciosa</i>]	Silk Floss or Kapok Tree	4	San Sebastian
<i>Malva acerifolia</i> **	Canary Tree Mallow	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Malva parviflora</i>	Least Mallow	4	San Sebastian
Moraceae	Fig Family		
[<i>Ficus carica</i>]	Common Fig	2	Roadsides
Myricaceae	Sweet Gale Family		
<i>Myrica faya</i>	Wax Myrtle	3	Mirador El Bailadero
Nyctaginaceae	Bougainvillea Family		
[<i>Bougainvillea glabra</i>]	Bougainvillea	7	Pajara
[<i>Mirabilia jalapa</i>]	Marvel of Peru	7	Pajara
Oleaceae	Olive Family		
<i>Chrysojasminum odoratissimum</i> *	a Jasmine	3	Teno Peninsula
Oxalidaceae	Wood Sorrel Family		
<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Procumbent Yellow Sorrel	2	Gutter Vilaflor
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Bermuda Buttercup	2	Common
Papaveraceae	Poppy Family		
<i>Eschscholzia californicum</i>	Californian Poppy	2	S of Vilaflor
Plantaginaceae	Plantain Family		
<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-leaved Toadflax	2	Walls in Vilaflor
<i>Digitalis (Isoplexis) canariensis</i> **	Canary Island Foxglove	3	Montie del Agua (fruit)
<i>Misopates orontium</i>	Weasel-snout	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Plantago arborescens</i> ssp. <i>arborescens</i> **	Canarian Shrubby Plantain	2	Chinamada
Plumbaginaceae	Thrift Family		
<i>Limonium macrophyllum</i> ***	-	2	Chinamada
Polygonaceae	Dock Family		

<i>Rumex bucephalophorus</i>	Horned Dock	2	Chinamada
<i>Rumex lunaria</i> **	Canary Dock	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Rumex vesicarius</i>	-	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
Primulaceae	Primrose Family		
<i>Lysimachia (Anagallis) arvensis</i> var. <i>caerulea</i>	Blue 'Scarlet' Pimpernel	2	Chinamada
Rhamnaceae	Buckthorn Family		
<i>Rhamnus crenulata</i> **	-	3	Teno Peninsula
Rosaceae	Rose Family		
<i>Marcetella moquiniana</i> **	Red Shrubby Burnet	3	Roadsides above Buenavista
[<i>Prunus dulcis</i>]	Almond	2	Common escape of cultivation
<i>Rubus ulmifolius</i>	-	2	Chinamada
<i>Sanguisorba megacarpa</i> *	a Burnet	2	S of Vilaflor
Rubiaceae	Bedstraw Family		
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	3	Monte del Agua
<i>Phyllis nobla</i> *	Capitana	2	Llano de los Viejos
<i>Plocama pendula</i> **	Balo	2	Common on roadsides
<i>Rubia fruticosa</i> *	Madder	3	Teno Peninsula
Salicaceae	Willow Family		
<i>Salix pedicellata</i> subsp. <i>canariensis</i> *	Canary Willow	4	R'side near Mirador El Rejo
Scrophulariaceae	Figwort Family		
<i>Scrophularia glabrata</i> **	-	3	Pinar Chio
<i>Scrophularia smithii</i> subsp. <i>smithii</i> ***	-	2	Llano de los Viejos
Solanaceae	Nightshade Family		
<i>Datura innoxia</i>	a Datura	4	San Sebastian
<i>Hyoscyamus albus</i>	White Henbane	2	Chinamada
<i>Lycium intricatum</i>	-	6	Jandia Peninsula
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	Shrub Tobacco	3	Teno Peninsula
Tamaricaceae	Tamarisk Family		
<i>Tamarix canariensis</i>	Canary Tamarisk	7	Vega de Rio Palmas
Urticaeae	Nettle Family		
<i>Forsskaolea angustifolia</i> **	Narrow-leaved Forskaolea	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Gesnouinia arborea</i> **	Tree Pellitory	4	Mirador El Rejo
<i>Urtica morifolia</i> *	Membranous Nettle	4	By Mirador El Bailadero
Zygophyllaceae	Caltrop Family		
<i>Zygophyllum (Fagonia) creticum</i>	Fagonia	7	Vega de Rio Palmas
<i>Zygophyllum (Tetraena) fontanesii</i>	Canarian Bean-Caper	6	Costa Calma Desert
Monocots	Monocotyledons		
Amaryllidaceae	Daffodil Family		
<i>Allium roseum</i>	Rosy Garlic	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Nothoscordum gracile</i>	-	2	Chinamada

<i>Pancratium canariense</i> **	Canary Sea Daffodil	3	Teno Peninsula (leaves)
Araceae	Arum Family		
<i>Arisarum vulgare</i>	Friar's Cowl	8	Barranco de Rio Cabras (leaves)
Areaceae	Palm Family		
<i>Phoenix canariensis</i> **	Canary Palm	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
[<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i>]	Date Palm	7	Occasional escape
Asparagaceae	Asparagus Family		
[<i>Agave americana</i>]	Century Plant	2	S of Vilaflor
<i>Asparagus arborescens</i>	Tree Asparagus	3	Teno Peninsula
<i>Dracaena draco</i>	Dragon Tree	2	Chinamada
<i>Scilla latifolia</i>		7	Vega de Rio Palmas
Asphodelaceae	Asphodel Family		
[<i>Aloe vera</i>]	-	6	Occasional escape
<i>Asphodelus ramosus</i> subsp. <i>ramosus</i>	Common Asphodel	2	Chinamada
<i>Asphodelus tenuifolius</i>	an Asphodel	2	Chinamada
Dioscoreaceae	Black Bryony Family		
<i>Tamus edulis</i>	-	4	Mirador El Rejo
Iridaceae	Iris Family		
<i>Romulea columnae</i> subsp. <i>grandiscapa</i> **	Canary Crocus	2	Chinamada
Orchidaceae	Orchid Family		
<i>Habenaria tridactylites</i> **	Canary Twayblade	2	Chinamada (fruit)
Poaceae	Grass Family		
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed	2	Roadsides
<i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i>	Buffle Grass or Sand Bur	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Bermuda Grass	4	Old road by tunnel - GM-1
<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	Fountain Grass	2	Roadsides
FUNGI:			
<i>Laurobasidium lauri</i>	Laurel Fungus	2	Llano de los Viejos
LICHENS:			
<i>Lobaria pulmonaria</i>	Tree Lungwort Lichen	4	Mirador El Bailadero
<i>Teloschistes flavicans</i>	Golden Hair Lichen	4	Mirador El Bailadero
<i>Usnea</i> sp.	A Beard Lichen	4	Mirador El Bailadero

Nomenclature contained within this list follows Plants of the World Online (POWO), an internationally accepted database of vascular plant families published by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.