

Friends of the
Desert Mountains'

Coachella Valley



Wildflower Festival

Presented by City of Palm Desert

CALIFORNIA DESERT WILDFLOWER FIELD GUIDE

DesertMountains.org



THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING BLOOMING IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY!

Friends of the Desert Mountains offers you this guide to the over 125 flowering plants found dotting hillsides and lining trails throughout the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument; tucked away in cracks and crevices from San Geronio Pass to the Salton Sea; and bursting forth in colorful swatches from Thermal to Idyllwild. Check them off as you go, note key features (remember to smell, but please don't pick), learn their common and Latin names, and really get to know the flowers of our desert mountains.

Common Name: desert sand verbena
Scientific Name: *Abronia villosa*
Family: Nyctaginaceae



Common Name: Frost Mat
Scientific Name: *Achyronychia cooperi*
Family: Caryophyllaceae



Common Name: strigose lotus
Scientific Name: *Acmispon strigosus*
Family: Fabaceae



Common Name: San Felipe dogweed
Scientific Name: *Adenophyllum porophylloides*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: broad-leaved gilia
Scientific Name: *Aliciella latifolia*
Family: Polemoniaceae



Common Name: prostrate pigweed
Scientific Name: *Amaranthus albus*
Family: Amaranthaceae



Common Name: white bursage
Scientific Name: *Ambrosia dumosa*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: cheesebush
Scientific Name: *Ambrosia salsola*
Family: Asteraceae



Photos: Shutterstock, CalFlora, Wikipedia, Karim Jafie

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Common Name: bristly fiddleneck
Scientific Name: *Amsinckia tessellata*
Family: Boraginaceae



Common Name: gravel ghost (parachute plant)
Scientific Name: *Atrichoseris platyphylla*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: fourwing saltbush
Scientific Name: *Atriplex canescens*
Family: Amaranthaceae



Common Name: cattle saltbush
Scientific Name: *Atriplex polycarpa*
Family: Amaranthaceae



Common Name: Parish's goldeneye
Scientific Name: *Bahiopsis parishii*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: Laxflower
Scientific Name: *Baileya pauciradiata*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: sweetbush
Scientific Name: *Bebbia juncea*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: Desert Starvine
Scientific Name: *Brandegea bigelovii*
Family: Cucurbitaceae



Common Name: Saharan mustard*
Scientific Name: *Brassica tournefortii*
Family: Brassicaceae



Common Name: yellow tack-stem
Scientific Name: *Calycoseris parryi*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: California mustard
Scientific Name: *Caulanthus lasiophyllus*
Family: Brassicaceae



Common Name: pebble pincushion
Scientific Name: *Chaenactis carphoclinia*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: Fremont's pincushion
Scientific Name: *Chaenactis fremontii*
Family: Asteraceae



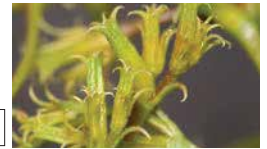
Common Name: desert pincushion
Scientific Name: *Chaenactis stevioides*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: nettle-leaved goosefoot
Scientific Name: *Chenopodium murale*
Family: Amaranthaceae



Common Name: brittle spine flower
Scientific Name: *Chorizanthe brevicornu*
Family: Polygonaceae



Common Name: yellow cups
Scientific Name: *Chylismia brevipes*
Family: Onagraceae



Common Name: heartleaf suncup
Scientific Name: *Chylismia cardiophylla*
Family: Onagraceae



Common Name: Browneyes
Scientific Name: *Chylismia claviformis*
Family: Onagraceae



Common Name: desert lavender
Scientific Name: *Condea emoryi*
Family: Lamiaceae



Common Name: sand pygmyweed
Scientific Name: *Crassula connata*
Family: Crassulaceae



Common Name: California croton
Scientific Name: *Croton californicus*
Family: Euphorbiaceae



Common Name: wingnut cryptantha
Scientific Name: *Cryptantha pterocarya*
Family: Boraginaceae



Common Name: scented cryptantha
Scientific Name: *Cryptantha utahensis*
Family: Boraginaceae



Common Name: California fagonbush
Scientific Name: *Fagonia laevis*
Family: Zygophyllaceae



Common Name: California barrel cactus
Scientific Name: *Ferocactus cylindraceus*
Family: Cactaceae



Common Name: ocotillo
Scientific Name: *Fouquieria splendens*
Family: Fouquieriaceae



Common Name: desert gold
Scientific Name: *Geraea canescens*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: star gilia
Scientific Name: *Gilia stellata*
Family: Polemoniaceae



Common Name: rock hibiscus
Scientific Name: *Hibiscus denudatus*
Family: Malvaceae



Common Name: wand holdback
Scientific Name: *Hoffmannseggia microphylla*
Family: Fabaceae



Common Name: wall barley*
Scientific Name: *Hordeum murinum*
Family: Poaceae



Common Name: narrow-leaved cryptantha
Scientific Name: *Johnstonella angustifolia*
Family: Boraginaceae



Common Name: chuparosa
Scientific Name: *Justicia californica*
Family: Acanthaceae



Common Name: white ratany
Scientific Name: *Krameria bicolor*
Family: Krameriaceae



Common Name: creosote bush
Scientific Name: *Larrea tridentata*
Family: Zygophyllaceae



Common Name: desert pepperweed
Scientific Name: *Lepidium fremontii*
Family: Brassicaceae



Common Name: hairypod pepperweed
Scientific Name: *Lepidium lasiocarpum*
Family: Brassicaceae



Common Name: Jones' Linanthus
Scientific Name: *Linanthus jonesii*
Family: Polemoniaceae



Common Name: Schott's calico
Scientific Name: *Loeseliastrum schottii*
Family: Polemoniaceae



Common Name: Arizona lupine
Scientific Name: *Lupinus arizonicus*
Family: Fabaceae



Common Name: Coulter's lupine
Scientific Name: *Lupinus sparsiflorus*
Family: Fabaceae



Common Name: Anderson thornbush
Scientific Name: *Lycium andersonii*
Family: Solanaceae



Common Name: desert dandelion
Scientific Name: *Malacothrix glabrata*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: white-stem stickleaf
Scientific Name: *Mentzelia albicaulis*
Family: Loasaceae



Common Name: sand blazingstar
Scientific Name: *Mentzelia involucrata*
Family: Loasaceae



Common Name: wishbone bush
Scientific Name: *Mirabilis laevis*
Family: Nyctaginaceae



Common Name: ghost flower
Scientific Name: *Mohavea confertiflora*
Family: Plantaginaceae



Common Name: California dodder
Scientific Name: *Cuscuta californica*
Family: Convolvulaceae



Common Name: branched pencil cholla
Scientific Name: *Cylindropuntia ramosissima*
Family: Cactaceae



Common Name: desert thorn-apple
Scientific Name: *Datura discolor*
Family: Solanaceae



Common Name: western tansy mustard
Scientific Name: *Descurainia pinnata*
Family: Brassicaceae



Common Name: Desert Dicoria
Scientific Name: *Dicoria canescens*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: Bigelow's monkeyflower
Scientific Name: *Diplacus bigelovii*
Family: Phrymaceae



Common Name: lance-leaved ditaxis
Scientific Name: *Ditaxis lanceolata*
Family: Euphorbiaceae



Common Name: California shieldpod
Scientific Name: *Dithyrea californica*
Family: Brassicaceae



Common Name: whispering bells
Scientific Name: *Emmenanthe penduliflora*
Family: Boraginaceae



Common Name: brittlebush
Scientific Name: *Encelia farinosa*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: White Mallow
Scientific Name: *Eremalche exilis*
Family: Malvaceae



Common Name: desert fivespot
Scientific Name: *Eremalche rotundifolia*
Family: Malvaceae



Common Name: Booth's evening primrose
Scientific Name: *Eremothera boothii*
Family: Onagraceae



Common Name: narrowleaf suncup
Scientific Name: *Eremothera refracta*
Family: Onagraceae



Common Name: desert trumpet
Scientific Name: *Eriogonum inflatum*
Family: Polygonaceae



Common Name: common stork's-bill*
Scientific Name: *Erodium cicutarium*
Family: Geraniaceae



Common Name: Texas stork's bill
Scientific Name: *Erodium texanum*
Family: Geraniaceae



Common Name: little gold poppy
Scientific Name: *Eschscholzia minutiflora*
Family: Papaveraceae



Common Name: goldpoppy
Scientific Name: *Eschscholzia parishii*
Family: Papaveraceae



Common Name: common eucrypta
Scientific Name: *Eucrypta chrysanthemifolia*
Family: Boraginaceae



Common Name: California primrose
Scientific Name: *Eulobus californicus*
Family: Onagraceae



Common Name: beetle spurge
Scientific Name: *Euphorbia eriantha*
Family: Euphorbiaceae



Common Name: smallseed sandmat
Scientific Name: *Euphorbia polycarpa*
Family: Euphorbiaceae



Common Name: Yuma sandmat
Scientific Name: *Euphorbia setiloba*
Family: Euphorbiaceae



Common Name: Mojave desert star
Scientific Name: *Monoptilon bellioides*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: purple mat
Scientific Name: *Nama demissa*
Family: Boraginaceae



Scientific Name: *Nemacladus glanduliferus*
Family: Campanulaceae



Scientific Name: *Nemacladus tenuis*
Family: Campanulaceae



Common Name: tangled snapdragon
Scientific Name: *Neogaerrhinum filipes*
Family: Plantaginaceae



Common Name: desert tobacco
Scientific Name: *Nicotiana obtusifolia*
Family: Solanaceae



Common Name: dune evening primrose
Scientific Name: *Oenothera deltoides*
Family: Onagraceae



Common Name: desert ironwood
Scientific Name: *Olneya tesota*
Family: Fabaceae



Common Name: beavertail cactus
Scientific Name: *Opuntia basilaris*
Family: Cactaceae



Common Name: Spanish needle
Scientific Name: *Palafoxia arida*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: blue palo verde
Scientific Name: *Parkinsonia florida*
Family: Fabaceae



Common Name: arched-nut pectocarya
Scientific Name: *Pectocarya recurvata*
Family: Boraginaceae



Common Name: bladderpod
Scientific Name: *Peritoma arborea*
Family: Cleomaceae



Common Name: Emory's rock daisy
Scientific Name: *Perityle emoryi*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: sandpaper plant
Scientific Name: *Petalonyx thurberi*
Family: Loasaceae



Common Name: Schott's pygmycedar
Scientific Name: *Peucephyllum schottii*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: desert bluebells
Scientific Name: *Phacelia campanularia*
Family: Boraginaceae



Common Name: notch-leaf scorpion-weed
Scientific Name: *Phacelia crenulata*
Family: Boraginaceae



Common Name: distant phacelia
Scientific Name: *Phacelia distans*
Family: Boraginaceae



Common Name: white fiesta flower
Scientific Name: *Pholistoma membranaceum*
Family: Boraginaceae



Common Name: desert mistletoe
Scientific Name: *Phoradendron californicum*
Family: Santalaceae



Common Name: thick-leaf ground-cherry
Scientific Name: *Physalis crassifolia*
Family: Solanaceae



Common Name: trailing windmills
Scientific Name: *Allionia incarnata*
Family: Nyctaginaceae



Common Name: desert plantain
Scientific Name: *Plantago ovata*
Family: Plantaginaceae



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Common Name: Arrow-leaf
Scientific Name: *Pleurocoronis plurisetia*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: rabbitfoot grass*
Scientific Name: *Polypogon monspeliensis*
Family: Poaceae



Common Name: Emory's Indigo Bush
Scientific Name: *Psoralethamnus emoryi*
Family: Fabaceae



Common Name: Schott's indigo bush
Scientific Name: *Psoralethamnus schottii*
Family: Fabaceae



Common Name: smoke tree
Scientific Name: *Psoralethamnus spinosus*
Family: Fabaceae



Common Name: fairy mist
Scientific Name: *Pterostegia drymarioides*
Family: Polygonaceae



Common Name: desert chicory
Scientific Name: *Rafinesquina neomexicana*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: tumbleweed*
Scientific Name: *Salsola tragus*
Family: Amaranthaceae



Common Name: chia
Scientific Name: *Salvia columbariae*
Family: Lamiaceae



Common Name: common Mediterranean grass*
Scientific Name: *Schismus barbatus*
Family: Poaceae



Common Name: Mojave ragwort
Scientific Name: *Senecio mohavensis*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: catclaw acacia
Scientific Name: *Senegalia greggii*
Family: Fabaceae



Common Name: western seapurslane
Scientific Name: *Sesuvium verrucosum*
Family: Aizoaceae



Common Name: London rocket*
Scientific Name: *Sisymbrium irio*
Family: Brassicaceae



Common Name: Common Sow-thistle
Scientific Name: *Sonchus oleraceus*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: desert globemallow
Scientific Name: *Sphaeralcea ambigua*
Family: Malvaceae



Common Name: small wirelettuce
Scientific Name: *Stephanomeria exigua*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: athel tamarisk*
Scientific Name: *Tamarix aphylla*
Family: Tamaricaceae



Common Name: sand fringepod
Scientific Name: *Thysanocarpus curvipes*
Family: Brassicaceae



Common Name: Palmer's crinklemat
Scientific Name: *Tiquilia palmeri*
Family: Boraginaceae



Common Name: puncture vine*
Scientific Name: *Tribulus terrestris*
Family: Zygophyllaceae



Common Name: yellowhead
Scientific Name: *Trichoptilium incisum*
Family: Asteraceae



Common Name: American threefold
Scientific Name: *Trixis californica*
Family: Asteraceae



*Plants marked with an asterisk are invasive, meaning that they cause damage to California's economy, environment, or both. Please watch for these and be sure not to spread them. Record observations on iNaturalist and/or contact our Weed Warriors for more info at friends@desertmountains.org.

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Coachella Valley

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Presented by City of Palm Desert

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