Shrubs, subshrubs, perennial, biennial or rarely annual herbs, usually aromatic. Stems erect, leafy or not, usually with simple eglandular hairs below and glandular hairs above. Leaves undivided, crenate, deeply lobed to pinnatisect, petiolate or subsessile. Inflorescence of few- to many-flowered verticillasters, distant or approximating. Bracts usually distinct from leaves, sometimes showy. Calyx tubular to infundibuliform, bilabiate, slightly or much expanding in fruit, 10-15-veined; upper lip shortly or scarcely 3-toothed; lower lip equally 2-toothed. Corolla bilabiate; upper lip falcate or ± straight, entire or bifid; lower lip 3-lobed, median lobe usually larger and concave; tube straight or curved, ventricose or not, invaginated and with a small internal scale (squamula) or not, annulate or not. Stamens 2, with a large fertile theca at upper end and a usually much smaller fertile theca or a sterile dolabridiform plate at the lower end; connectives clearly separating the thecae; stamens articulating at the point of attachment of filament and connective (in ours); staminodes usually present, very small. Style bifid with unequal flattened or terete lobes. Nutlets 4, glabrous ellipsoid to ± spherical, smooth, veined or not, usually mucilaginous on wetting.