



## A QUICK NORTHERN CAPE TRIP

3 - 8 FEBRUARY 2026

By Anton Schultz



*Secretarybird is one of the region's most sought-after birds and families. Our time in the Kgalagadi produced quite a few of these fantastic birds.*

## Overview

The Northern Cape Province of South Africa is a mosaic of vast, dramatic landscapes and a surprising richness of biodiversity across its deserts, savannas, river systems, and semi-arid shrublands. Despite being South Africa's largest province by a country mile, it's also its least populated, which often culminates in hours of driving on the open road with the distinct sensation that you have the view all to yourself. This sense of space extends to the birdlife as well, with distinctive arid-zone species that reward patient exploration, from desert specialists to impressive raptors and nomadic species that track the region's shifting conditions following rain.

On this quick jaunt through these remarkable landscapes, I set out with our private guest, George, to find several species that had eluded his life list for quite some time. With an itinerary built entirely around his target birds, we followed a clear plan and succeeded in ticking every one of them off, with a day still to spare. Although maximizing species numbers was not the main aim of the trip, we still recorded an impressive total of 124 species, including several mouthwatering specials such as: **Burchell's** and **Namaqua Sandgrouse**, **Burchell's** and **Double-banded Courser**, **Rufous-cheeked Nightjar**, **Southern White-faced** and **Verrauxes Eagle-Owl**, **Secretarybird**, **Martial** and **Booted Eagle**, **Red-necked** and **Pygmy Falcon**, **Kori** and **Ludwig's Bustard**, **Karoo Korhaan**, **Red**, **Stark's** and **Slater's Lark**, **Black-eared Sparrow-Lark**, **Bradfield's Swift**, **Rosy-faced Lovebird**, **Crimson-breasted Shrike**, **Rufous-eared** and **Namaqua Warbler** and **Sociable Weaver** among many others. We also had a few great mammal sightings including **Cape** and **Bat-eared Fox**, **Black-backed Jackal**, **African Wildcat**, **Lion**, **Springhare**, **Meerkat** and **Yellow Mongoose**.



*We had such a great **Rufous-cheeked Nightjar** sighting that it could be identified by its black-based rictal bristles!*

### Detailed Report

#### Day 1, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026. Arrival in Upington, and transfer to Kgalagadi

I met George at OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg, and we took a morning flight of about one and a half hours to Upington. After collecting our rental vehicle, a brute of a Toyota Hilux 4x4, we began our drive north into the Kalahari and continued to Twee Rivieren Rest Camp in the Kgalagadi National Park. Unsurprisingly, we got the first of George's targets on the way to the park, with our first **Sociable Weaver** nest of many we were to see on the trip, on a telephone pole. These nests are a must-see highlight for this part of the world. Created from a mass framework of sticks and grass woven by multiple generations of birds, sometimes weighing over 2000 lb. (1000 kg), this is the largest and heaviest nest of any bird species on the planet.

After arrival to the park, we took some time to get acquainted with our accommodation, heading out for a camp walk or two and a quick self-drive. We managed to record a fantastic diversity of wildlife on our doorstep with some fantastic Kalahari specials seen and heard, including **Pale Chanting Goshawk**, **Black-faced** and **Violet-eared Waxbills**, **Shaft-tailed Whydah**, **Crimson-breasted Shrike**, **Marico** and **Chat Flycatcher** (George's second target of the trip). Not to mention the tame family of **Yellow Mongoose** on our doorstep and the **Meerkat** colony with pups visible from the bird hide.



*Meerkats must be one of the most sought-after mammals worldwide and always a pleasure to spend some time with when possible.*

Around sunset, we met our driver who would take us deeper into the park after dark. As the light began to fade we added a few final highlights for the day, including a distant black-maned **Lion**,

reportedly a well-known male that has entered the camp before, as well as herds of **Gemsbok**, **Springbok**, **Bontebok** and **Red Hartebeest** spread across the open plains.

A **Red-necked Falcon** settled into its evening roost, while a **Western Barn Owl** prepared for its nightly hunt from atop a stolen **Sociable Weaver** nest. Once darkness fell, our attention turned to George's third target, and before long we found it. Two **Rufous-cheeked Nightjars** were sitting in the road. We carefully edged closer to one bird, eventually enjoying such close views that we could confirm the identification by the black bases of its rictal bristles. With the target secured, we made our way back to camp and enjoyed an excellent selection of mammals along the route, including **Cape Fox**, **Bat-eared Fox**, an **African Wildcat** playing with its mouse prey, and several wonderfully strange-looking **South African Springhares**. Just as we stopped at the camp gate for drop-off, we were treated to one last highlight, a **Verreaux's Eagle-Owl** hunting geckos from the entrance. It's hard not to love this national park!

### Day 2, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026. Birding Kgalagadi, and transfer to Pofadder

Our day started well when a fantastic **Pearl-Spotted Owl** visited our camp this morning, a sign of good things to come. Today we focused on a key target species best searched for in the Kgalagadi National Park. We set off early to reach a borehole near Twee Rivieren by sunrise. With breakfast in hand and a good measure of patience, we settled in at a well-known drinking spot for Burchell's Sandgrouse. These birds are highly dependent on water and are often seen at reliable waterholes at certain times of year. Conditions were less predictable than usual because the park was unusually green, with many temporary water sources hidden between the dunes offering alternative drinking sites. The morning unfolded slowly as the first regular denizens of the waterhole began to appear. **Namaqua**, **Laughing**, and **Ring-necked Doves** shuffled along the edge with nervous, watchful movements, while a pair of **Red-necked Falcons** kept guard from a nearby treetop. Before long, a lively cast of small seed-eaters joined the gathering, including **Lark-like Buntings**, **Grey-backed Sparrow-Larks**, **Cape Sparrows**, **Red-headed Finches**, **Red-billed Queleas**, and both **Black-throated** and **Yellow Canaries**, each slipping in for a quick drink when they judged the moment safe. Occasionally a pair of **Black-backed Jackals** wandered in for a drink, feigning indifference to the doves gathered nearby. The act was never fully convincing, and the doves scattered whenever the jackals edged too close. One unfortunate **Namaqua Dove** was not as lucky and fell victim to the patient **Red-necked Falcon**, whose long vigil at the waterhole finally paid off.

At around 8:00 am, a familiar call carried across the dunes as the first **Burchell's Sandgrouse** announced their arrival. A small flock passed overhead, then another, and another, each group giving progressively better views in flight. A few sandgrouse eventually dropped down to the borehole, raising hopes of a perfect sighting, but these proved to be the co-occurring **Namaqua Sandgrouse** instead. Although none of the Burchell's came in to drink, the repeated overhead passes provided more than enough detail for George to confidently tick his fourth target of the trip. We then made our way out of the park, enjoying excellent views of the regular Kalahari thornveld species we had encountered the previous day, along with several standout additions including **Secretarybird**, **Kori Bustard**, **Martial Eagle**, **Tawny Eagle**, **Common Ostrich** with chicks, and a pair of **South African Shelducks**.

Our drive to Pofadder was fairly uneventful, spent soaking in the vast Kalahari landscapes as they gradually gave way to the more sparsely vegetated shrublands of Namaqualand. After arriving in

town, we made a short, late afternoon foray into the surrounding area to try for a few of George's more difficult remaining targets. With sunset approaching quickly, it was not to be, and we settled in for the evening, confident that the following day would bring fresh opportunities.



*Burchell's Sandgrouse can be regularly seen coming in to drink in Kgalagadi National Park*

### Day 3, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2026. Birding the Koa dunes and Pofadder.

We set off from Pofadder bright and early to reach my “secret” spot in the Koa dunes at Witputs Farm right at dawn. I know the area well, having spent three months there collecting data on one of George's key targets, and we were fortunate to have private access to this excellent site. With our 4x4 Hilux finally put to proper use, we soon found ourselves among the red dunes, enjoying superb views of a singing **Red Lark** in the light morning rain, a special moment and George's fifth target secured. With that success behind us, we dropped off the dunes and onto the surrounding plains, where the birding quickly gathered momentum. A **Double-banded Courser** appeared on the road ahead of us, followed by distant but satisfying views of the scarcer and more nomadic **Burchell's Courser**, arguably the toughest of George's targets on the trip. Among large flocks of **Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark**, we picked out a small group of **Stark's Larks** feeding in the open, giving us three more target species in quick succession. The property continued to deliver, with additional highlights including **Ludwig's Bustard**, **Karoo Korhaan**, **Spotted Thick-knee**, **Tractrac Chat**, and flocks of **Namaqua Sandgrouse**.

Feeling that we were on a roll, we headed to the more publicly accessible dunes in the Black Mountain Mine Conservancy to search for the tricky Black-eared Sparrow-Lark. We carefully worked through numerous flocks of **Grey-backed Sparrow-Larks** and **Lark-like Buntings**, but

this particular target proved less cooperative than the others and continued to elude us, despite thorough scanning for the rest of the day. Even so, the birding remained excellent, with repeat sightings of several earlier species and welcome additions such as **Northern Black Korhaan**, **Fawn-coloured Lark** and **Pygmy Falcon**. After such a productive morning, we slowed the pace and returned to camp for a midday rest during the hottest hours.



*The charismatic endemic **Red Lark** is a highly localized species in the Northern Cape.*

Later in the afternoon we headed out again with a very specific and far easier target in mind, one that did not even require leaving Pofadder. Before long we picked up George's ninth target of the trip, **Bradfield's Swift**, among other aerial specialists circling over the town. With time still on our side, we finished the day with a relaxed sunset drive, enjoying more good views of many of the region's regulars. A standout moment came when we watched a juvenile **Pale Chanting Goshawk** in an extended standoff with a **Cape Cobra**, seemingly undecided about turning the snake into a meal. In the end the hesitation won, and the cobra slipped away unharmed, bringing a highly productive day to a close.

#### **Day 4, 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026. Pofadder area and transfer to Brandvlei**

With the previous day's success behind us, only two targets remained for the trip, both among the most difficult: Black-eared Sparrow-Lark and the even scarcer Sclater's Lark. To improve our chances, I chose an alternative backroad route toward Brandvlei. The drive involved a series of rough farm tracks, and at one point Google Maps nearly convinced me to follow a derelict road better left unused. While not the most elegant route from a logistical perspective, it proved excellent for birding. Along the way we recorded a strong supporting cast, including **Booted Eagle**, **Acacia Pied Barbet**, **Karoo Long-billed**, **Spike-heeled** and **Eastern Clapper Lark**.

About halfway to Brandvlei, the seemingly endless flocks of **Grey-backed Sparrow-Larks** began to include more **Black-eared Sparrow-Larks**, though views were brief at first. Persistence paid off when we finally found a male perched on a barbed wire fence, giving us prolonged, clear views and securing George's tenth target of the trip, with just one species left.

After dropping our bags in Brandvlei and enjoying another short midday rest, we set out for a nearby water feature to take on our final challenge, **Sclater's Lark**, a species most often encountered at drinking sites. What we had not planned for was the steady rain that arrived just as we began our watch. As with our earlier search for **Burchell's Sandgrouse**, the abundance of fresh surface water raised the obvious question of why the birds would choose this particular spot to drink. As expected, none came in to the water, but the plan still came together when we located a **Sclater's Lark** nearby on the open gravel plains that form its preferred habitat. We enjoyed satisfying views and were both delighted to secure George's eleventh and final target of the trip. With a clean sweep achieved, we returned to our accommodation in high spirits to celebrate.



*It didn't take too much effort to find a sleek-looking **Double-banded Courser** on this trip.*

### Day 5, 7<sup>th</sup> February 2026. Brandvlei area and transfer to Keimoes

With all our targets secured, we kept the morning relaxed and birded simply for the enjoyment of it. At a bridge crossing we were greeted by several **Namaqua Warblers** calling loudly, while **Orange River White-Eyes** skulked in the surrounding vegetation. The morning drive produced a strong selection of dry-country species, including **Dusky Sunbird**, **Yellow-bellied Eremomela**, **Bokmakierie**, **Grey-backed Cisticola**, **Karoo Scrub Robin**, **Chat Flycatcher**, **Karoo Chat**, **Tractrac Chat**, and **Large-billed Lark**, along with many familiar lark species we had come to know well over the course of the trip, bringing our lark tally to eleven species. A particular highlight was spending time with the Bradfield's thick-billed subspecies of **Sabota Lark**, a form that may yet be split in the future. These birds are exceptional vocal mimics, and it was a pleasure

to sit nearby and listen to their complex, varied songs. As the day began to warm, we visited an inviting waterhole in the hope of getting one more sighting of Sclater's Lark coming in to drink. That final repeat view did not materialize, but there was still plenty of activity, including **White-throated Canary**, **Yellow Canary**, **Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark**, **Lark-like Bunting**, and **Red-headed Finch**.



*The nomadic **Sclater's Lark** is one of the most difficult birds to see in the region.*

After a relaxed final lunch in town, we drove on to Keimoes for our last evening's stay. The journey itself provided plenty of roadside interest, including a remarkable stretch where nearly every telephone pole for several kilometers supported a **Sociable Weaver** nest. A welcome surprise was a **Peregrine Falcon** perched on its own pole, along with several familiar raptors such as **Lanner Falcon**, **Pale Chanting Goshawk**, and **Booted Eagle**. Our accommodation overlooked the Orange River, and the birdlife shifted noticeably to a more riverine suite, almost reminiscent of the moister eastern parts of South Africa compared to the arid regions we had been exploring. New additions for the trip included **Hamerkop**, **Reed Cormorant**, **African Fish Eagle**, **Malachite** and **Brown-hooded Kingfisher**, **Cardinal Woodpecker**, **Common Reed Warbler**, and **African Pied Wagtail**. The standout highlight was a group of **Rosy-faced Lovebirds** breeding beneath a bridge overpass, a species common in Namibia but a tough record within South Africa.

With that, the trip came to a fittingly relaxed and rewarding close. Our final morning was simply devoted to reaching the airport on time and returning our behemoth rental vehicle. Many thanks to George for an excellent trip and for the opportunity to showcase the arid western landscapes of the country, a region many international visitors rarely get to experience.



*The colorful **Rosy-faced Lovebird** is usually best sought out on a tour to Namibia, but there is a small population which pushes into South Africa's arid Northern Cape*

**Bird List - Following IOC 15.1 (March 2025)**

Birds 'heard only' are marked with (H) after the common name, all other species were seen.

The following notation after species names is used to show conservation status following the IUCN Red List:

CR = Critically Endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable.

<b>Common name</b>	<b>Scientific name</b>
<b>Ostriches (Struthionidae)</b>	
Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>
<b>Ducks, Geese, Swans (Anatidae)</b>	
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>
South African Shelduck	<i>Tadorna cana</i>
<b>Nightjars (Caprimulgidae) -</b>	
Rufous-cheeked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus rufigena</i>
<b>Swifts (Apodidae)</b>	
African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>
Bradfield's Swift	<i>Apus bradfieldi</i>
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>
<b>Bustards (Otididae)</b>	
Kori Bustard	<i>Ardeotis kori</i>
Ludwig's Bustard - EN	<i>Neotis ludwigii</i>
Karoo Korhaan	<i>Heterotetrax vigorsii</i>
Northern Black Korhaan	<i>Afrotis afraoides</i>
<b>Cuckoos (Cuculidae)</b>	
Diederik Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>
<b>Sandgrouse (Pteroclididae)</b>	
Namaqua Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles namaqua</i>
Burchell's Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles burchelli</i>
<b>Pigeons, Doves (Columbidae)</b>	
Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>
Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>
Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>

<b>Stone-curlews, Thick-knees (Burhinidae)</b>	
Spotted Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>
<b>Plovers (Charadriidae)</b>	
Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>
Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>
Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>
<b>Coursers, Pratincoles (Glareolidae)</b>	
Double-banded Courser	<i>Rhinoptilus africanus</i>
Burchell's Courser	<i>Cursorius rufus</i>
<b>Cormorants, Shags (Phalacrocoracidae)</b>	
Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>
<b>Ibises, Spoonbills (Threskiornithidae)</b>	
African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>
Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
<b>Hérons, Bitterns (Ardeidae)</b>	
Little/Dimorphic Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta/dimorpha</i>
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>
<b>Hamerkop (Scopidae)</b>	
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>
<b>Secretarybird (Sagittariidae)</b>	
Secretarybird - EN	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>
<b>Kites, Hawks, Eagles (Accipitridae)</b>	
Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
White-backed Vulture - CR	<i>Gyps africanus</i>
Martial Eagle - EN	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>
Tawny Eagle - VU	<i>Aquila rapax</i>
Pale Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax canorus</i>
African Fish Eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga vocifer</i>
Jackal Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufofuscus</i>
<b>Barn Owls (Tytonidae)</b>	
Western Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>

<b>Owls (Strigidae)</b>	
Pearl-spotted Owlet	<i>Glaucidium perlatum</i>
Southern White-faced Owl	<i>Ptilopsis granti</i>
Spotted Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>
Verreaux's Eagle-Owl	<i>Ketupa lactea</i>
<b>Wood Hoopoes (Phoeniculidae)</b>	
Common Scimitarbill (H)	<i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>
<b>Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)</b>	
Brown-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon albiventris</i>
Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>
<b>Bee-eaters (Meropidae)</b>	
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>
<b>African Barbets (Lybiidae)</b>	
Acacia Pied Barbet	<i>Tricholaema leucomelas</i>
<b>Woodpeckers (Picidae)</b>	
Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>
<b>Caracaras, Falcons (Falconidae)</b>	
Pygmy Falcon	<i>Polihierax semitorquatus</i>
Rock Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicolus</i>
Greater Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicoloides</i>
Red-necked Falcon	<i>Falco chicquera</i>
Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>
<b>Old World Parrots (Psittaculidae)</b>	
Rosy-faced Lovebird	<i>Agapornis roseicollis</i>
<b>Wattle-eyes, Batises (Platysteiridae)</b>	
Pirit Batis (H)	<i>Batis pirit</i>
<b>Bushshrikes (Malaconotidae)</b>	
Bokmakierie	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>
Crimson-breasted Shrike	<i>Laniarius atrococcineus</i>
Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>
<b>Drongos (Dicruridae)</b>	
Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>

<b>Shrikes (Laniidae)</b>	
Southern Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>
Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>
<b>Crows, Jays (Corvidae)</b>	
Cape Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>
<b>Tits, Chickadees (Paridae)</b>	
Ashy Tit (H)	<i>Melaniparus cinerascens</i>
<b>Larks (Alaudidae)</b>	
Spike-heeled Lark	<i>Chersomanes albofasciata</i>
Karoo Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda subcoronata</i>
Black-eared Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix australis</i>
Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix verticalis</i>
Sabota Lark	<i>Calendulauda sabota</i>
Fawn-colored Lark	<i>Calendulauda africanooides</i>
Red Lark - VU	<i>Calendulauda burra</i>
Eastern Clapper Lark	<i>Corypha fasciolata</i>
Sclater's Lark	<i>Spizocorys sclateri</i>
Stark's Lark	<i>Spizocorys starki</i>
Large-billed Lark (H)	<i>Galerida magnirostris</i>
<b>Bulbuls (Pycnonotidae)</b>	
African Red-eyed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus nigricans</i>
<b>Swallows, Martins (Hirundinidae)</b>	
Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>
Large Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>
Pearl-breasted Swallow	<i>Hirundo dimidiata</i>
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
White-throated Swallow	<i>Hirundo albigularis</i>
<b>Reed Warblers &amp; Allies (Acrocephalidae)</b>	
Common Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>
<b>Cisticolas &amp; Allies (Cisticolidae)</b>	
Grey-backed Cisticola (H)	<i>Cisticola subruficapilla</i>
Desert Cisticola	<i>Cisticola aridulus</i>
Black-chested Prinia	<i>Prinia flavicans</i>
Namaqua Warbler	<i>Phragmacia substriata</i>
Rufous-eared Warbler	<i>Malcorus pectoralis</i>

Yellow-bellied Eremomela	<i>Eremomela icteropygialis</i>
<b>Sylviid Babblers (Sylviidae)</b>	
Chestnut-vented Warbler	<i>Curruca subcoerulea</i>
<b>White-eyes (Zosteropidae)</b>	
Orange River White-eye	<i>Zosterops pallidus</i>
<b>Starlings, Rhabdornises (Sturnidae)</b>	
Cape Starling	<i>Lamprotornis nitens</i>
<b>Thrushes (Turdidae)</b>	
Karoo Thrush	<i>Turdus smithi</i>
<b>Chats, Old World Flycatchers (Muscicapidae)</b>	
Karoo Scrub Robin	<i>Tychaedon coryphoeus</i>
Kalahari Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas paena</i>
Chat Flycatcher	<i>Agricola infuscatus</i>
Marico Flycatcher	<i>Bradornis mariquensis</i>
Cape Robin-Chat	<i>Dessonornis caffer</i>
Karoo Chat	<i>Emarginata schlegelii</i>
Tractrac Chat	<i>Emarginata tractrac</i>
Ant-eating Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla formicivora</i>
Capped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>
Familiar Chat	<i>Oenanthe familiaris</i>
<b>Sunbirds (Nectariniidae)</b>	
Dusky Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris fuscus</i>
<b>Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches (Passeridae)</b>	
Cape Sparrow	<i>Passer melanurus</i>
Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer diffusus</i>
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
<b>Weavers, Widowbirds (Ploceidae)</b>	
White-browed Sparrow-Weaver	<i>Plocepasser mahali</i>
Sociable Weaver	<i>Philetairus socius</i>
Scaly-feathered Weaver	<i>Sporopipes squamifrons</i>
Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>
Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>
Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>

<b>Waxbills, Munias &amp; Allies (Estrildidae)</b>	
Black-faced Waxbill	<i>Brunhilda erythronotos</i>
Red-headed Finch	<i>Amadina erythrocephala</i>
Violet-eared Waxbill	<i>Granatina granatina</i>
Green-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia melba</i>
<b>Indigobirds, Whydahs (Viduidae)</b>	
Shaft-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua regia</i>
<b>Wagtails, Pipits (Motacillidae)</b>	
Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>
African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>
<b>Finches, Euphonias (Fringillidae)</b>	
Black-throated Canary	<i>Crithagra atrogularis</i>
Yellow Canary	<i>Crithagra flaviventris</i>
White-throated Canary	<i>Crithagra albogularis</i>
<b>Buntings (Emberizidae)</b>	
Lark-like Bunting	<i>Emberiza impetuani</i>
<b>Species seen:</b>	<b>119</b>
Species heard:	5
Total species recorded:	124

### Mammal List – Following Mammalwatching.com (Jan. 2024)

Mammals ‘heard only’ are marked with (H) after the common name, all other species were seen.

The following notation after species names is used to show conservation status following the IUCN Red List:

EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable.

Common name	Scientific name
<b>Hares and Rabbits (Leporidae)</b>	
Cape Hare	<i>Lepus capensis</i>
<b>Squirrels (Sciuridae)</b>	
South African Ground Squirrel	<i>Geosciurus inauris</i>
<b>Springhares (Pedetidae)</b>	
Southern African Springhare	<i>Pedetes capensis</i>

<b>Canids (Canidae)</b>	
Bat-eared Fox	<i>Otocyon megalotis</i>
Cape Fox	<i>Vulpes chama</i>
Black-backed Jackal	<i>Lupulella mesomelas</i>
<b>Felids (Felidae)</b>	
Lion - VU	<i>Panthera leo</i>
African Wildcat	<i>Felis lybica</i>
<b>Mongoose (Herpestidae)</b>	
Yellow Mongoose	<i>Cynictis penicillata</i>
Meerkat	<i>Suricata suricatta</i>
<b>Bovids (Bovidae)</b>	
Hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus</i>
Blue Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>
Bontebok	<i>Damaliscus pygargus</i>
Springbok	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>
Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>
Gemsbok	<i>Oryx gazella</i>
<b>Species seen:</b>	<b>16</b>
Species recorded	16