



**EASTERN SOUTH AFRICA CUSTOM TOUR
TRIP REPORT**

22 - 27 SEPTEMBER 2017

By Dylan Vasapoli



The Vulnerable (IUCN) Southern Ground Hornbill is always a highlight.

Overview

This short custom tour was essentially an add-on to a Madagascar trip and focused on touching the bases of the biodiverse-rich eastern side of South Africa. Beginning in Johannesburg we transferred to the world-renowned Kruger National Park, where we spent a few days before exploring two sites on the Drakensberg escarpment: Mount Sheba, set in a band of afro-montane forest, and Dullstroom, located in the high mountains and surrounded by rocky montane grassland. The tour concluded back in Johannesburg.

Day 1, September 22. Johannesburg to Kruger National Park

Following breakfast I met and collected the group at their hotel, after they had arrived the previous evening from their Madagascar trip, before we started our long transfer to the north-central region of the Kruger National Park, where we would spend a few nights. The going was mostly smooth, bar a long stop at a police roadblock, but we arrived at the Phalaborwa Gate into the park in the mid-afternoon. From here we made our way to Letaba Camp, where we spent our first night. We picked up a few interesting species en route to Kruger, including **Brown Snake Eagle, Black-winged Kite, Giant Kingfisher, African Palm Swift, Red-winged Starling, Lesser Masked Weaver, and Southern Red Bishop**. After entering the park we heard of a pride of Lions nearby and duly pulled in behind the usual traffic jam. We did manage to see the Lions, including a few small cubs, but they were rather obscured and the views left us wanting more. A stop at the Sable Dam proved productive before we had to continue to ensure that we arrived at the camp gate in time. We managed to see **Egyptian Goose, African Fish Eagle, Water Thick-knee, Blacksmith Lapwing, and Three-banded Plover** along with Nile Crocodile at the dam. The surrounding bushveld produced quite a few birds, including **Helmeted Guineafowl, White-backed Vulture, Bateleur, Tawny Eagle, African Hawk-Eagle, Red-crested Korhaan, Crowned Lapwing, Grey Go-away-bird, Purple and Lilac-breasted Rollers, African Hoopoe, a family of the regal Southern Ground Hornbill, Southern Red-billed, Southern Yellow-billed, and African Grey Hornbills, Crested Barbet, White-crested Helmetshrike, Southern Black Tit, Long-billed Crombec, Red-billed Oxpecker, Kurrichane Thrush, Southern Black Flycatcher, Marico Flycatcher, Red-billed Quelea, and Red-headed Weaver**. We also encountered a few mammals, which included Impala, Bushbuck, Giraffe, Common Warthog, and our first herd of the massive African Elephant. We arrived at the camp in time but found that the restaurant was closed, so we had an impromptu braai instead. A night walk after dinner provided us with a few nocturnal mammals, including Wahlberg's Epauletted Fruit Bat, Spring Hare, Thick-tailed Greater Galago (Bushbaby), and Acacia Rat. **African Scops Owl** frustrated us at every turn and went unseen, despite a number of individuals calling from seemingly right above us.

Day 2, September 23. Kruger National Park

We started the day with a morning birding walk around the camp grounds while we waited for our guide/driver and open safari game drive vehicle to arrive. We had a good morning with a wealth of activity despite the rather cold and windy conditions. **Natal Spurfowl and Kurrichane Thrush** patrolled the grounds, while the tree tops supported **African Green Pigeon, Brown-headed Parrot, Grey-headed Bushshrike, Black-headed Oriole, Wattled Starling, Scarlet-chested Sunbird, and Village Weaver**. A viewpoint over the Letaba River and a scan of the river produced some unexpected **Greater Flamingos** along with **Yellow-billed Stork, African**

Sacred Ibis, Grey Heron, Little Egret, Black-winged Stilt, Ruff, and Common Greenshank. We met our guide/driver for the next few days, climbed aboard our open safari vehicle, and set off for a morning game drive. We slowly explored the southern bank of the Letaba River before working our way back up to camp, where we warmed up over coffee and brunch. Although it was a slow morning, we still enjoyed a number of birds, including **White-faced Whistling Duck, African Spoonbill, Striated and Goliath Herons, Great Egret, African Cuckoo-Hawk, Martial Eagle, Yellow-billed Kite, Black Crake, Kittlitz's Plover, African Jacana,** a family of the rare **African Skimmer** that had taken up residence on the river here over the past few months and had successfully bred, **Namaqua Dove, Burchell's Coucal, Speckled Mousebird, Brown-hooded, Giant, and Pied Kingfishers, Little and White-fronted Bee-eaters, Wire-tailed Swallow, Greater Blue-eared Starling, Red-billed and Yellow-billed Oxpeckers, White-bellied Sunbird, and African Pied Wagtail.** Mammals we found included Vervet Monkey, Hippopotamus, Greater Kudu, African Buffalo, Waterbuck, Bushbuck, and Giraffe.



Glorious White-fronted Bee-eaters

Following brunch we made our way northward to our next camp, Mopani Rest Camp, where we'd spend two nights. The Letaba River north of the camp held a few more species, including **Spur-winged Goose, Saddle-billed Stork, African Darter, White-fronted Plover, Whimbrel,** and **Common and Wood Sandpipers.** Our drive to Mopani was relatively quiet, but we did enjoy numbers of African Elephants, along with another pride of Lions, providing slightly better views, and Plains Zebra, Common Warthog, and Blue Wildebeest among other more common antelopes. The birding side was restricted to **Crested Francolin, Tawny Eagle, African Hawk-Eagle,** the gigantic **Kori Bustard, Red-crested Korhaan, African Grey Hornbill, and Red-billed Buffalo Weaver** among other more widespread species. After arriving at camp we checked in and then went on a quick afternoon drive, where we visited the nearby hides on Pioneer Dam. It was a quiet afternoon, but we enjoyed **Yellow-billed Stork, Goliath Heron, Black Crake, Water Thick-knee, Giant and Pied Kingfishers, Sabota Lark, Yellow-billed Oxpecker, and African Pied Wagtail.** The mammals were restricted to Chacma Baboon, Hippopotamus, and Greater Kudu.

Day 3, September 24. Kruger National Park

We began with a morning drive, where we focused on the more open grasslands and stunted mopane vegetation lying to the east of the camp before returning to camp for lunch. It was a cold, overcast morning, and we had a quiet few hours and had to work hard for our species. The open plains held a few **Common Ostriches**, along with **Swainson's Spurfowl**, **Kori Bustard**, **Red-crested Korhaan**, a family of **Southern Ground Hornbills**, and numbers of **Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Larks**. The surrounding bushveld was a bit more productive and provided **Wahlberg's Eagle**, **Burchell's Coucal**, **Pearl-spotted Owlet**, **Green Wood Hoopoe**, **Golden-tailed Woodpecker**, **Black-crowned Tchagra**, **Black-backed Puffback**, **Rattling Cisticola**, **Arrow-marked Babbler**, **Yellow-billed Oxpecker**, **Groundscraper Thrush**, **White-browed Scrub Robin**, **Marico Sunbird**, **Green-winged Pytilia**, and **Blue Waxbill**. Mammals were also pretty quiet, but we did manage to find the difficult Tsessebe, but Roan Antelope eluded us, sadly. Common Dwarf Mongoose, Steenbok, Common Duiker, Nyala, African Buffalo, and African Elephant were other species seen. At lunch we bade farewell to our guide/driver and thanked him for the good trip we'd had before setting off on a brief walk around the camp, which saw us adding **Grey-backed Camaroptera**, **Kurrichane Thrush**, **White-throated Robin-Chat**, **White-bellied Sunbird**, **Red-billed Firefinch**, and **African Pipit**. A quick visit to the hides on the nearby Pioneer Dam produced a few more species for us, including **White-faced Whistling Duck**, **Yellow-billed**, **Saddle-billed**, and **Marabou Storks**, **African Spoonbill**, **Black-crowned Night Heron**, **Grey and Goliath Herons**, **Hamerkop**, **Black-winged Stilt**, and the tiny **Malachite Kingfisher**. Following dinner we headed out for a night drive, which proved to be quite productive. We got off to a good start with a few noisy **Western Barn Owls** flying around the camp as we were waiting for the drive to start. Our good start continued when we got onto an brief Southern African Wild Cat moving through the long grass; however, only some of the group managed to see it. A few Spotted Hyaenas were next up as they moved through a clearing with purpose. A large **Verreaux's Eagle-Owl** followed, together with a few flushed **Common Buttonquails** on the bird side, before our good fortune continued with a stunning Serval, sitting right next to the road. We spent about 20 minutes with the cat and watched as it keenly listened to the night, and also as it briefly began to stalk a nearby Steenbok, although it gave up on this quickly. After we'd had our fill we let the Serval be and continued on our way. We enjoyed a number of other nocturnal creatures as well, including a few African Civets, Black-backed Jackal, and Scrub Hare before arriving back at camp after a satisfying night drive.



We couldn't have asked for better views of Serval.

Day 4, September 25. Kruger National Park to Mount Sheba

We started our morning with a birding walk around the camp and, with a bit of sun peeking through the clouds, enjoyed an excellent morning, coming close to 100 species after a few hours. Waterbirds were well covered, and besides the regular species we also found **Saddle-billed Stork, Squacco and Purple Herons, Little Egret, Hamerkop, Black-winged Stilt, Common and Wood Sandpipers, Ruff, Common Greenshank, and Collared Pratincole**. The mix of thornveld and mopane woodland in camp, however, held the most species, and here we found **Emerald-spotted Wood Dove, Grey Go-away-bird, Speckled Mousebird, Chinspot Batis, White-crested Helmetshrike, Orange-breasted Bushshrike, Brown-crowned Tchagra, Southern Black Tit, Mosque Swallow, Southern Black Flycatcher, Southern Grey-headed Sparrow, Yellow-throated Petronia, Lesser Masked, Southern Masked, Village, and Red-headed Weavers, Green-winged Pytilia, Yellow-fronted Canary, and Cinnamon-breasted Bunting**. After a good breakfast, and some surprise mopane worms we set off to our next destination, Mt Sheba. We had quite a drive ahead of us and made our way out of the park relatively quickly. The journey was rather quiet but saw us adding **Brown Snake Eagle, African Hawk-Eagle, Southern White-crowned Shrike, and Grey-rumped Swallow**, while we did get

our best views of Lion, finding two males snoozing just off the road. After lunch we stopped first at The Three Rondavels viewpoint, where we enjoyed the picturesque Blyde River Canyon before heading to the nearby God's Window viewpoint, where we also enjoyed the views, along with some fine forest birding. The Three Rondavels gave us species such as **African Black Swift**, **Peregrine Falcon**, **Cape Rock Thrush**, **Mocking Cliff** and **Familiar Chats**, and **Greater Double-collared Sunbird**, while God's Window provided us with a glorious **Knysna Turaco** first, followed soon by **Bar-throated Apalis**, **Cape Robin-Chat**, **Southern Boubou**, and the prized **Orange Ground Thrush** very casually hopping around just off the trail, giving us some rather great views of this notoriously difficult bird! As if this wasn't enough, as we got back to the car we heard a **Barratt's Warbler** calling nearby and gave it a quick blast of playback, and almost immediately the bird came right out into the open and put on quite a show as it very uncharacteristically moved about slowly and kept to the open. We couldn't quite believe our luck and soaked up the views of another notoriously very difficult species to see. **White-necked Raven** was our last sighting before we arrived at Mount Sheba just after dark, following a highly successful day that saw us exceeding well beyond 100 species for the day.



White-crested Helmetshrike is always a treat.

Day 5, September 26. Mount Sheba to Dullstroom

The morning started with rain and kept us indoors, so we decided to rather have an early breakfast while waiting for it to clear. This proved to be a good move, as after we were finished the rain stopped and we were able to head out. We kept to the main road and slowly birded our way along, although it was quiet initially. We began with the more common forest species, namely **Terrestrial Brownbul**, **Cape Batis**, and **Yellow-throated Woodland Warbler** before a **Narina Trogon** began calling. We headed off in search of it and managed to get onto the bird, although it was somewhat obscured by vegetation, before a troop of Samango (Blue) Monkeys came through, spooking the bird. As we worked our way along, we found a fruiting tree that attracted a steady stream of **Knysna Turacos** and also enjoyed **Olive Woodpecker**, **Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher**, **Sombre** and **Yellow-streaked Greenbuls**, **Bar-throated Apalis**, **Olive Thrush**, **African Dusky Flycatcher**, and the dainty **White-starred Robin**. **Orange**

Ground Thrush called regularly, but we were unable to get our eyes on it, although we didn't try too hard after our views the previous afternoon. The grounds produced **Speckled Pigeon**, **Greater Striped Swallow**, **Cape White-eye**, **Swee Waxbill**, and **Cape Wagtail**. Following our walk we collected our things and departed for Dullstroom. Our way out was hampered by a few birding stops, the first producing a stunning **Olive Bushshrike** before we got onto the uncommon **Southern Tchagra**. While we were working for views of this skulking species a number of **Drakensberg Prinias** hopped about, giving us some good views. Then we stopped to investigate something on a hillside, and it turned out to be **Denham's Bustard**, another uncommon and difficult species. After a lunch stop in Lydenburg we headed to Dullstroom and checked in at our comfortable lodge. After dropping our things we headed off into the nearby montane grasslands in the Verloren Valei Nature Reserve, and although conditions weren't ideal with it being cold, windy, and overcast, we managed to find a few of the specials of the area. Top of the pick was a covey of **Red-winged Francolins** playing hide and seek with us, along with **African Wattled Lapwing**, **Marsh Owl**, **Eastern Long-billed Lark**, **Cape Grassbird**, **Levaillant's** and **Wing-snapping Cisticolas**, **Mountain Wheatear**, **Cape Longclaw**, **Streaky-headed Seedeater**, and **Cape Canary**. Around the grounds we managed to find **Cape Robin-Chat** and a surprising **Golden-breasted Bunting** and after dark an **African Wood Owl**. Mammal highlights were Oribi, Blesbok, Common Duiker, and Grey Rhebok.

Day 6, September 27. Dullstroom to Johannesburg, and departure.

This being our last day, we began bright and early this morning as we headed out following a similar route to the previous afternoon, although in thick mist today. The mist didn't hamper us too much, as we managed to find a number of the outstanding specials. Rocky outcrops played host to **Bokmakierie**, **Sentinel Rock Thrush**, **Buff-streaked Chat**, and **Long-billed Pipit**.



Buff-streaked Chat

The firebreak lining the road proved most productive, delivering great views of a number of both **Grey-winged** and **Red-winged Francolins**, **Cape Crow**, **Eastern Long-billed Lark**, **Wing-snapping Cisticola**, **African Stonechat**, **Long-tailed Widowbird**, and **Cape Longclaw**. A

drive up a hill to the protea-covered slopes gave us a lone **Gurney's Sugarbird** that proved difficult to see in the mist, but we managed some good views along with **Cape Grassbird**, and a bit of birding around a few dams delivered **Yellow-billed Duck**, **Little Grebe**, **African Snipe**, and **White-throated Swallow**. We also found a few mammals, including Jameson's Red Rock Hare, Oribi, and Blesbok. Then we headed back to our lodge, collected our things, and made our way to town to warm up over a good breakfast.

With a few hours to kill in the afternoon before needing to be at the Johannesburg airport, we opted to spend them at Rietvlei Nature Reserve, not far from the airport, where we could hopefully track down a few mammals. We arrived in good time and set off to explore the reserve. It was relatively quiet, but we drove a number of the loops and had our packed lunch at one of the picnic sites, giving us some time to walk around. Highlights here were **Common Ostrich**, **African Black Duck**, **Striated Heron**, **African Snipe**, the stunning **Crimson-breasted Shrike**, **Lesser Swamp Warbler**, **Pied Starling**, **Groundscraper Thrush**, **Fiscal Flycatcher**, **Cape Sparrow**, and **Cape Longclaw**. We were also extremely fortunate on the mammalian side and managed to find Common Slender and Yellow Mongooses, Meerkat, Common Eland, Springbok, Red Hartebeest, Black Wildebeest, African Buffalo, and the prehistoric White Rhinoceros, probably our main target. As it so often happens, just as we were leaving and shortly before reaching the gate we noticed a head peeking up above the grass, and on closer inspection, found it to be one of the resident Cheetahs. We couldn't believe our luck, and, as we pulled up alongside the cat, noted that there were three 'teenage' cubs lurking in the grass as well. We sadly didn't have much time to spend here but soaked up our views of these regal cats before eventually leaving them be and continuing to the airport, where the tour ended.



A Cheetah to round off the tour

I would kindly like to thank the group for the good times, all the laughs, and especially the many great sightings we had. Although it was a fairly short trip, we did well, ending with 220 species of birds (plus five heard only) and 45 species of mammals.

EASTERN SOUTH AFRICA CUSTOM TOUR BIRD LIST SEPTEMBER 2017		
Bold = country endemic		
Status: NT = Near-threatened, VU = Vulnerable, CR = Critically Endangered		
Common name (IOC 8.1)	Scientific name (IOC 8.1)	Trip
	STRUTHIONIFORMES	
<u>Ostriches</u>	<u>Struthionidae</u>	
Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>	1
	ANSERIFORMES	
<u>Ducks, Geese and Swans</u>	<u>Anatidae</u>	
White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	1
Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>	1
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	1
African Black Duck	<i>Anas sparsa</i>	1
Yellow-billed Duck	<i>Anas undulata</i>	1
	GALLIFORMES	
<u>Guineafowl</u>	<u>Numididae</u>	
Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	1
<u>Pheasants and allies</u>	<u>Phasianidae</u>	
Grey-winged Francolin	<i>Scleroptila afra</i>	1
Red-winged Francolin	<i>Scleroptila levaillantii</i>	1
Crested Francolin	<i>Dendroperdix sephaena</i>	1
Natal Spurrow	<i>Pternistis natalensis</i>	1
Swainson's Spurrow	<i>Pternistis swainsonii</i>	1
	PODICIPEDIFORMES	
<u>Grebes</u>	<u>Podicipedidae</u>	
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	1
	PHOENICOPTERIFORMES	
<u>Flamingos</u>	<u>Phoenicopteridae</u>	
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	1
	CICONIIFORMES	
<u>Storks</u>	<u>Ciconiidae</u>	
Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>	1
Saddle-billed Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis</i>	1
Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumenifer</i>	1

	PELECANIFORMES	
<u>Ibises, Spoonbills</u>	<u>Threskiornithidae</u>	
African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	1
Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>	1
African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>	1
<u>Hérons, Bitterns</u>	<u>Ardeidae</u>	
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	1
Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	1
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	1
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	1
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1
Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>	1
Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>	1
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	1
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	1
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	1
<u>Hamerkop</u>	<u>Scopidae</u>	
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	1
	SULIFORMES	
<u>Cormorants, Shags</u>	<u>Phalacrocoracidae</u>	
Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>	1
<u>Anhingas, Darters</u>	<u>Anhingidae</u>	
African Darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>	1
	ACCIPITRIFORMES	
<u>Kites, Hawks and Eagles</u>	<u>Accipitridae</u>	
Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	1
African Cuckoo-Hawk	<i>Aviceda cuculoides</i>	1
White-backed Vulture - CR	<i>Gyps africanus</i>	1
Brown Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>	1
Bateleur - NT	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>	1
Martial Eagle - VU	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>	1
Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus wahlbergi</i>	1
Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>	1
African Hawk-Eagle	<i>Aquila spilogaster</i>	1
African Goshawk	<i>Accipiter tachiro</i>	H
Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>	1
African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>	1
Jackal Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufofuscus</i>	1
	OTIDIFORMES	

<u>Bustards</u>	<u>Otididae</u>	
Kori Bustard - NT	<i>Ardeotis kori</i>	1
Denham's Bustard - NT	<i>Neotis denhami</i>	1
Red-crested Korhaan	<i>Lophotis ruficrista</i>	1
	GRUIFORMES	
<u>Rails, Crakes and Coots</u>	<u>Rallidae</u>	
Black Crake	<i>Amaurornis flavirostra</i>	1
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	1
	CHARADRIIFORMES	
<u>Buttonquail</u>	<u>Turnicidae</u>	
Common Buttonquail	<i>Turnix sylvaticus</i>	1
<u>Stone-curlews, Thick-knees</u>	<u>Burhinidae</u>	
Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>	1
<u>Stilts, Avocets</u>	<u>Recurvirostridae</u>	
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	1
<u>Plovers</u>	<u>Charadriidae</u>	
Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>	1
Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>	1
African Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>	1
Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>	1
Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>	1
White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>	1
<u>Jacanas</u>	<u>Jacanidae</u>	
African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>	1
<u>Sandpipers, Snipes</u>	<u>Scolopacidae</u>	
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	1
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>	1
African Snipe	<i>Gallinago nigripennis</i>	1
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	1
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	1
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	1
<u>Couriers, Pratincoles</u>	<u>Glareolidae</u>	
Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	1
<u>Gulls, Terns and Skimmers</u>	<u>Laridae</u>	
African Skimmer - NT	<i>Rynchops flavirostris</i>	1
	COLUMBIFORMES	
<u>Pigeons, Doves</u>	<u>Columbidae</u>	
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	1
Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	1

Mourning Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>	1
Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	1
Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	1
Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	1
Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>	1
Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>	1
African Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calvus</i>	1
	MUSOPHAGIFORMES	
<u>Turacos</u>	<u>Musophagidae</u>	
Knysna Turaco	<i>Tauraco corythaix</i>	1
Grey Go-away-bird	<i>Corythaixoides concolor</i>	1
	CUCULIFORMES	
<u>Cuckoos</u>	<u>Cuculidae</u>	
Burchell's Coucal	<i>Centropus burchellii</i>	1
	STRIGIFORMES	
<u>Barn Owls</u>	<u>Tytonidae</u>	
Western Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	1
<u>Owls</u>	<u>Strigidae</u>	
African Scops Owl	<i>Otus senegalensis</i>	H
Verreaux's Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo lacteus</i>	1
African Wood Owl	<i>Strix woodfordii</i>	1
Pearl-spotted Owlet	<i>Glaucidium perlatum</i>	1
Marsh Owl	<i>Asio capensis</i>	1
	APODIFORMES	
<u>Swifts</u>	<u>Apodidae</u>	
African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	1
African Black Swift	<i>Apus barbatus</i>	1
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	1
	COLIIFORMES	
<u>Mousebirds</u>	<u>Coliidae</u>	
Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>	1
Red-faced Mousebird	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>	H
	TROGONIFORMES	
<u>Trogons</u>	<u>Trogonidae</u>	
Narina Trogon	<i>Apaloderma narina</i>	1
	CORACIIFORMES	
<u>Rollers</u>	<u>Coraciidae</u>	
Purple Roller	<i>Coracias naevius</i>	1
Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudatus</i>	1

<u>Kingfishers</u>	<u>Alcedinidae</u>	
Brown-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon albiventris</i>	1
Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>	1
Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>	1
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	1
<u>Bee-eaters</u>	<u>Meropidae</u>	
Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>	1
White-fronted Bee-eater	<i>Merops bullockoides</i>	1
	BUCEROTIFORMES	
<u>Hoopoes</u>	<u>Upupidae</u>	
African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>	1
<u>Wood Hoopoes</u>	<u>Phoeniculidae</u>	
Green Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>	1
<u>Ground Hornbills</u>	<u>Bucorvidae</u>	
Southern Ground Hornbill - VU	<i>Bucorvus leadbeateri</i>	1
<u>Hornbills</u>	<u>Bucerotidae</u>	
Southern Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus rufirostris</i>	1
Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus leucomelas</i>	1
African Grey Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros nasutus</i>	1
	PICIFORMES	
<u>African Barbets</u>	<u>Lybiidae</u>	
Crested Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus vaillantii</i>	1
<u>Woodpeckers</u>	<u>Picidae</u>	
Golden-tailed Woodpecker	<i>Campethera abingoni</i>	1
Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>	H
Olive Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos griseocephalus</i>	1
	FALCONIFORMES	
<u>Caracaras, Falcons</u>	<u>Falconidae</u>	
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	1
	PSITTACIFORMES	
<u>African & New World Parrots</u>	<u>Psittacidae</u>	
Brown-headed Parrot	<i>Poicephalus cryptoxanthus</i>	1
	PASSERIFORMES	
<u>Wattle-eyes, Batises</u>	<u>Platysteiridae</u>	
Cape Batis	<i>Batis capensis</i>	1
Chinspot Batis	<i>Batis molitor</i>	1
<u>Helmetsrikes</u>	<u>Prionopidae</u>	
White-crested Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>	1
<u>Bushshrikes</u>	<u>Malaconotidae</u>	

Grey-headed Bushshrike	<i>Malaconotus blanchoti</i>	1
Olive Bushshrike	<i>Chlorophoneus olivaceus</i>	1
Orange-breasted Bushshrike	<i>Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus</i>	1
Bokmakierie	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>	1
Brown-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>	1
Southern Tchagra	<i>Tchagra tchagra</i>	1
Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegalus</i>	1
Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubla</i>	1
Southern Boubou	<i>Laniarius ferrugineus</i>	1
Crimson-breasted Shrike	<i>Laniarius atrococcineus</i>	1
<u>Shrikes</u>	<u>Laniidae</u>	
Magpie Shrike	<i>Urolestes melanoleucus</i>	1
Southern White-crowned Shrike	<i>Eurocephalus anguitimens</i>	1
Southern Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>	1
<u>Figbirds, Orioles</u>	<u>Oriolidae</u>	
Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus larvatus</i>	1
<u>Drongos</u>	<u>Dicruridae</u>	
Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	1
<u>Monarchs</u>	<u>Monarchidae</u>	
Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher	<i>Trochocercus cyanomelas</i>	1
African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>	1
<u>Crows, Jays</u>	<u>Corvidae</u>	
Cape Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>	1
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	1
White-necked Raven	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>	1
<u>Tits, Chickadees</u>	<u>Paridae</u>	
Southern Black Tit	<i>Melaniparus niger</i>	1
<u>Larks</u>	<u>Alaudidae</u>	
Eastern Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda semitorquata</i>	1
Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix leucotis</i>	1
Sabota Lark	<i>Calendulauda sabota</i>	1
<u>Bulbuls</u>	<u>Pycnonotidae</u>	
Dark-capped Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus tricolor</i>	1
Sombre Greenbul	<i>Andropadus importunus</i>	1
Terrestrial Brownbul	<i>Phyllastrephus terrestris</i>	1
Yellow-streaked Greenbul	<i>Phyllastrephus flavostriatus</i>	1
<u>Swallows, Martins</u>	<u>Hirundinidae</u>	
Grey-rumped Swallow	<i>Pseudhirundo griseopyga</i>	1
White-throated Swallow	<i>Hirundo albigularis</i>	1

Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>	1
Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>	1
Greater Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis cucullata</i>	1
Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>	1
Mosque Swallow	<i>Cecropis senegalensis</i>	1
<u>Crombecs, African Warblers</u>	<u>Macrosphenidae</u>	
Cape Grassbird	<i>Sphenoecus afer</i>	1
Long-billed Crombec	<i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>	1
<u>Leaf Warblers and allies</u>	<u>Phylloscopidae</u>	
Yellow-throated Woodland Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus ruficapilla</i>	1
<u>Reed Warblers and allies</u>	<u>Acrocephalidae</u>	
Lesser Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus gracilirostris</i>	1
<u>Grassbirds and allies</u>	<u>Locustellidae</u>	
Barratt's Warbler	<i>Bradypterus barratti</i>	1
<u>Cisticolas and allies</u>	<u>Cisticolidae</u>	
Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>	1
Levaillant's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola tinniens</i>	1
Wing-snapping Cisticola	<i>Cisticola ayresii</i>	1
Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>	1
<u>Drakensberg Prinia</u>	<u>Prinia hypoxantha</u>	1
Bar-throated Apalis	<i>Apalis thoracica</i>	1
Grey-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brevicaudata</i>	1
<u>Laughingthrushes</u>	<u>Leiothrichidae</u>	
Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>	1
<u>White-eyes</u>	<u>Zosteropidae</u>	
Cape White-eye	<i>Zosterops virens</i>	1
<u>Sugarbirds</u>	<u>Promeropidae</u>	
Gurney's Sugarbird - NT	<i>Promerops gurneyi</i>	1
<u>Starlings, Rhabdornis</u>	<u>Sturnidae</u>	
Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	1
Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>	1
Cape Starling	<i>Lamprotornis nitens</i>	1
Greater Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>	1
Pied Starling	<i>Lamprotornis bicolor</i>	1
Red-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>	1
<u>Oxpeckers</u>	<u>Buphagidae</u>	
Yellow-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus africanus</i>	1
Red-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus erythrorynchus</i>	1
<u>Thrushes</u>	<u>Turdidae</u>	

Orange Ground Thrush	<i>Geokichla gurneyi</i>	1
Groundscraper Thrush	<i>Turdus litsitsirupa</i>	1
Kurrichane Thrush	<i>Turdus libonyana</i>	1
Olive Thrush	<i>Turdus olivaceus</i>	1
<u>Chats, Old World Flycatchers</u>	<u>Muscicapidae</u>	
White-browed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas leucophrys</i>	1
Southern Black Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis pammelaina</i>	1
Fiscal Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis silens</i>	1
Marico Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis mariquensis</i>	1
African Dusky Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa adusta</i>	1
Cape Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha caffra</i>	1
White-throated Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha humeralis</i>	1
White-starred Robin	<i>Pogonocichla stellata</i>	1
<u>Cape Rock Thrush</u>	<u>Monticola rupestris</u>	1
Sentinel Rock Thrush - NT	<i>Monticola explorator</i>	1
African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>	1
Buff-streaked Chat	<i>Campicoloides bifasciatus</i>	1
Mocking Cliff Chat	<i>Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris</i>	1
Mountain Wheatear	<i>Myrmecocichla monticola</i>	1
Familiar Chat	<i>Oenanthe familiaris</i>	1
<u>Sunbirds</u>	<u>Nectariniidae</u>	
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>	1
Greater Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris afer</i>	1
Marico Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris mariquensis</i>	1
White-bellied Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris talatala</i>	1
<u>Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches</u>	<u>Passeridae</u>	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	1
Cape Sparrow	<i>Passer melanurus</i>	1
Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer diffusus</i>	1
Yellow-throated Petronia	<i>Gymnoris superciliaris</i>	1
<u>Weavers, Widowbirds</u>	<u>Ploceidae</u>	
Red-billed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Bubalornis niger</i>	1
<u>Cape Weaver</u>	<u>Ploceus capensis</u>	1
Lesser Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus intermedius</i>	1
Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>	1
Village Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>	1
Red-headed Weaver	<i>Anaplectes rubriceps</i>	1
Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>	1
Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>	1

Long-tailed Widowbird	<i>Euplectes progne</i>	1
<u>Waxbills, Munias and allies</u>	<u>Estrildidae</u>	
Green-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia melba</i>	1
Cut-throat Finch	<i>Amadina fasciata</i>	H
Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>	1
Blue Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>	1
Sweet Waxbill	<i>Coccyzygia melanotis</i>	1
<u>Wagtails, Pipits</u>	<u>Motacillidae</u>	
Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>	1
African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>	1
Cape Longclaw	<i>Macronyx capensis</i>	1
African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>	1
Long-billed Pipit	<i>Anthus similis</i>	1
<u>Finches</u>	<u>Fringillidae</u>	
Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Crithagra mozambica</i>	1
Streaky-headed Seedeater	<i>Crithagra gularis</i>	1
Cape Canary	<i>Serinus canicollis</i>	1
<u>Buntings, New World Sparrows</u>	<u>Emberizidae</u>	
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza tahapisi</i>	1
Golden-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>	1
TOTAL		220

EASTERN SOUTH AFRICA CUSTOM TOUR MAMMAL LIST SEPTEMBER 2017		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Trip
	CHIROPTERA	
	Pteropodidae	
Wahlberg's Epauletted Fruit Bat	<i>Epomophorus wahlbergi</i>	1
	Vespertilionidae	
African Yellow House Bat	<i>Scotophilus dinganii</i>	1
	RODENTIA	
	Muridae	
Acacia Rat	<i>Thallomys paedulcus</i>	1
	Sciuridae	
Smith's Bush Squirrel	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>	1
	Pedetidae	
Spring Hare	<i>Pedetes capensis</i>	1
	LAGOMORPHA	
	Leporidae	

Scrub Hare	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>	1
Jameson's Red Rock Hare	<i>Pronolagus randensis</i>	1
	PROBOSCIDEA	
	Elephantidae	
African Elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	1
	PERISSODACTYLA	
	Equidae	
Plains Zebra	<i>Equus quagga</i>	1
	Rhinocerotidae	
White Rhinoceros	<i>Ceratotherium simum</i>	1
	CETARTIODACTYLA	
	Hippopotamidae	
Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	1
	Suidae	
Common Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	1
	Giraffidae	
Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	1
	Bovidae	
Black Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes gnou</i>	1
Blue Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus taurinus</i>	1
Red Hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus caama</i>	1
Oribi	<i>Ourebia ourebi</i>	1
Blesbok	<i>Damaliscus pygargus phillipsi</i>	1
Tsessebe	<i>Damaliscus lunatus lunatus</i>	1
Common Duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>	1
Springbok	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>	1
Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>	1
Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>	1
Grey Rhebok	<i>Pelea capreolus</i>	1
African Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>	1
Greater Kudu	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>	1
Nyala	<i>Tragelaphus angasii</i>	1
Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>	1
Common Eland	<i>Tragelaphus oryx</i>	1
Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>	1
	CARNIVORA	
	Hyaenidae	
Spotted Hyaena	<i>Crocota crocuta</i>	1
	Felidae	

Cheetah	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	1
Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>	1
Southern African Wild Cat	<i>Felis silvestris cafra</i>	1
Serval	<i>Leptailurus serval</i>	1
	Canidae	
Black-backed Jackal	<i>Canis mesomelas</i>	1
	Viverridae	
African Civet	<i>Civettictis civetta</i>	1
	Herpestidae	
Meerkat	<i>Suricata suricatta</i>	1
Yellow Mongoose	<i>Cynictis penicillata</i>	1
Common Slender Mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguineus</i>	1
Common Dwarf Mongoose	<i>Helogale parvula</i>	1
	PRIMATES	
	Galagidae	
Thick-tailed Greater Galago	<i>Otolemur crassicaudatus</i>	1
	Cercopithecidae	
Chacma Baboon	<i>Papio ursinus</i>	1
Vervet Monkey	<i>Chlorocebus pygerythrus</i>	1
Samango Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus mitis labiatus</i>	1
TOTAL		45