

NAMIBIA, BOTSWANA AND VICTORIA FALLS SET DEPARTURE TRIP REPORT

02-19 NOVEMBER 2024

By Dominic Rollinson



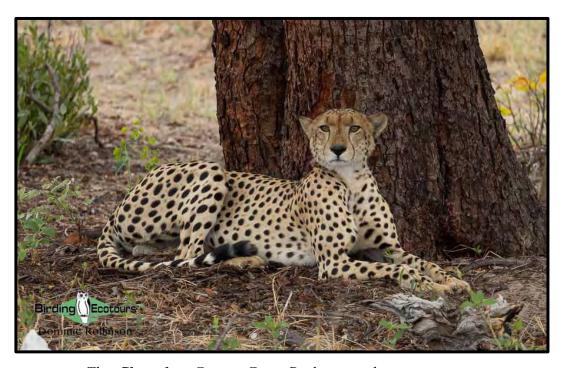
Watching African Skimmers skim-feeding was a sure trip highlight.



Overview

This southern African birding and wildlife safari covers the breadth of Namibia, taking in a large variety of habitats from the Namib Desert near Walvis Bay, in Namibia, to the subtropics of Victoria Falls, in Zimbabwe and Zambia. This diversity of habitats means we normally end up with an impressive bird list and this particular trip was no different and we happily recorded 396 bird species. Of course, it was not only about the quantity of species seen but also the quality, with many Namibian near-endemics and regional specials found. This is always an enjoyable and feel-good tour, with generally excellent infrastructure geared towards eco-tourism and high-quality accommodation (with tasty and varied meals) and easy access to areas with high diversities and abundances of birds and other wildlife.

Some of the standout bird species on this southern African birding tour included Pel's Fishing Owl, Schalow's Turaco, White-backed Night Heron, Lesser Jacana, Southern Carmine Bee-eater (at their breeding colony), Pennant-winged Nightjar, Racket-tailed Roller, Southern Ground Hornbill, Martial Eagle, Red-necked Falcon and Kori Bustard. While some of the near-endemics and regional specials included Slaty Egret, Rüppell's Korhaan, Burchell's Sandgrouse, Damara Red-billed and Monteiro's Hornbills, Rüppell's Parrot, Souza's Shrike, Dune, Stark's and Pink-billed Larks, Pale-throated Greenbul, White-tailed Shrike, Herero Chat, Rufous-eared Warbler, Sharp-tailed Starling and many others.



This **Cheetah** in Caprivi Game Park was a pleasant surprise.

As always, this tour included many fantastic sightings of large and charismatic megafauna including Lion, Cheetah, African Elephant, Black Rhinoceros, Common Hippopotamus, Spotted Hyena, Cape and Bat-eared Foxes, Angolan Slender (Black) Mongoose, Giraffe, and

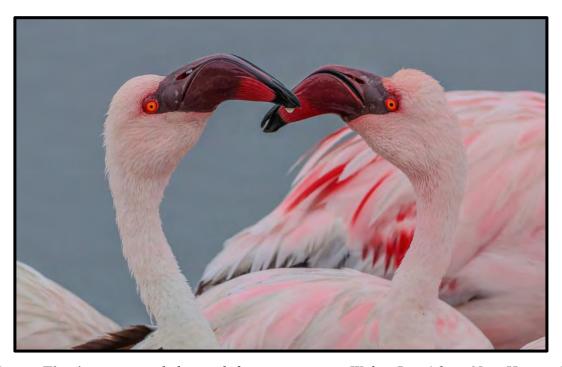


(Hartmann's) **Mountain Zebra**. We recorded an impressive 49 species of mammals on this tour! A memorable predation event involving a **Bushveld Sengi** and **Horned Adder** was also certainly one of the highlights of the trip for many!

Detailed Report

Day 1, 2nd November 2024. Arrival and Walvis Bay birding

As some of the group had arrived the previous day in Namibia, we decided to make an early start and birded the Walvis Bay coast and salt works which, as always, proved highly productive with some lovely sightings of the masses of shorebirds which winter in the area. Some of the highlights included the likes of Common Ringed, Chestnut-banded and White-fronted Plovers, Sanderling, Curlew Sandpiper, Little Stint, Bar-tailed Godwit and the scarce Marsh Sandpiper. Terns were in high abundance too and we added Common, Sandwich, Greater Crested, Black and a single Arctic Tern. First prize, however, went to good looks at a single Damara Tern which is always high on the agenda at Walvis Bay. A single Osprey was a surprise, and we of course acquainted ourselves with the huge numbers of Greater and Lesser Flamingos and a few massive Great White Pelicans.



Lesser Flamingoes provided us with fantastic views in Walvis Bay (photo Nico Heyning).

After lunch I collected the last few tour participants, and we again enjoyed some more coastal birding in the late afternoon where we saw most of the common shorebirds listed above and further improved our looks at **Damara Tern** with a few close flybys. We finished the day



enjoying our dinner while overlooking the bay with both Lesser and Greater Flamingos adding more color to the scene.

Day 2, 3rd November 2024. Walvis Bay boat cruise and birding

This morning we headed out before sunrise to nearby Rooibank, to some low red sand dunes along the edge of the dry Kuiseb River to look for Dune Lark. Unfortunately, on our way to the parking spot I managed to get us properly stuck in some very soft sand. About 90 minutes later, with many rocks, bricks and logs laid onto the sand track and with deflated tyres, we managed to get the van out and just about made it back to our accommodation in time for breakfast. We decided the procedure was a carefully planned team bonding activity! The Dune Lark would have to wait until later.



A European Storm Petrel showing its clear white underwing flash (photo Nico Heyning).

After a rushed breakfast back at our lodge, we headed out for our Walvis Bay boat cruise which is always an enjoyable way to spend the morning. While out on the water we had looks at Sooty Shearwater, White-chinned Petrel and an unexpected European Storm Petrel. We couldn't have asked for better looks at the many massive Great White Pelicans and also enjoyed Afro-Australian Fur Seals cheekily hopping up onto our boat for a fish snack. We were excited to find a friendly group of Common Bottle-nosed Dolphins which kept us entertained with some impressive jumps clear out of the water while a group of around seven Humpback Whales also showed incredibly well. Masses of terns were seen (mostly Common Terns) with good numbers of Black, Sandwich, Caspian and Greater Crested Terns seen too. We finished the boat cruise with a tasty second breakfast spread, including oysters and champagne (for some).



Once back on dry land we picked up some lunch and made our way north through the picturesque town of Swakopmund which has some impressive German architecture. We stopped in the white sand plains north of town to look for Gray's Lark, but despite a concerted effort the birds would not show at their normally reliable stakeout. We then made a quick detour on our way back to Walvis Bay to see the impressive *Welwitschia mirabilis* plant – a gymnosperm which is restricted to the Namib Desert of Namibia and Angola. We found examples of both male and female plants in the area and even managed to find a few Welwitschia Bugs which are suspected to play a role in the plant's pollination. Amazingly, these plants are thought to often live to over 1,000 years old, sometimes as old as 2,000 years! In the area we also managed to find the pale Namib Desert form of **Tractrac Chat**.

After reuniting Ruth and Todd with their luggage at Walvis Bay airport, we headed back to Rooibank to have a proper attempt at finding **Dune Lark**. This species was, until recently, considered a Namibian endemic, however, with the lumping of Barlow's Lark (which occurs across the border into South Africa), it means Namibia has lost its only bird endemic species. After ensuring we avoided the sand track, we set out into the low red sand dunes. The larks took a little longer than usual, however, we eventually enjoyed good looks of a singing bird in the lovely late-afternoon light. We then returned to Walvis Bay after an eventful and fun first full day of the tour.



We eventually managed good views of **Dune Lark** near Walvis Bay (photo Nico Heyning).

Day 3, 4th November 2024. Walvis Bay to Erongo Mountains, Spitzkoppe birding en route

Today was an even earlier start as we wanted to get out into the Namib Desert before it heated up too much. After passing through Swakopmund we decided to have another go at Gray's Lark which unfortunately again proved unsuccessful. Saying goodbye to the Atlantic Ocean, our



destination was Spitzkoppe (meaning 'sharp head' in German) which is a group of granite inselbergs that rise out of the Namib Desert, reaching a height of 2,200 feet (670 meters) above the desert floor. Interestingly, the still photos used as backgrounds for the 'Dawn of Man' sequence in 2001: A Space Odyssey were from the Spitzkoppe Mountains! As we made our way through the Namib Desert, we were happy to find a small group of the near-endemic **Rüppell's Korhaan**.



Rüppell's Korhaan was seen well in the Namib Desert (photo Nico Heyning).

We weren't only visiting Spitzkoppe to enjoy the dramatic beauty of the area though and immediately upon our arrival we saw our target, **Herero Chat** (another Namibian near endemic). This species can often require a large amount of time and effort and so we were relieved to find it before we had even hopped out the van. While we were enjoying the chat a **Bushveld Sengi** (elephant shrew) shot out of some nearby bushes and when we found it again a few meters away it seemed to be on its way to dying and passed away in front of our eyes, which left us all perplexed as to what had caused its demise!

Our short stint at Spitzkoppe proved to be very productive with other additions to the list including Mountain Chat, White-browed Sparrow-Weaver, Grey Go-away-bird, Gabar Goshawk, Black-chested Prinia, Chestnut-vented Warbler, Dusky Sunbird and White-throated Canary. As we got back to the van, Kay decided to have another look at the sengi and was excited to find that it was busy being devoured by a Horned Adder which we watched for the next ten minutes! We put two and two together and realized that the elephant shrew must have been bitten just before we saw it, with the adder tracking it down while we were away birding. Certainly, an early trip highlight!



We then took the long and bumpy road to the Erongo Mountains, arriving in the early afternoon for a late lunch and some time off during the sweltering heat. Once it had cooled down, we took a walk around the picturesque granite outcrops in the area where we unsuccessfully looked for Hartlaub's Spurfowl and Rockrunner. We did, however, find Southern Grey-headed Sparrow, Long-billed Crombec, Swallow-tailed Bee-eater, Large Rock Martin and many Pale-winged Starlings.



The Horned Adder slowly swallowing the Bushveld Sengi at Spitzkoppe.

Later that evening we enjoyed our checklist session while being distracted by calling **Freckled Nightjars**, some even perching on the roof of the restaurant.

Day 4, 5th November 2024. Erongo Mountains birding

We took advantage of the cooler temperatures in the early morning and met at sunrise and again continued our search for the spurfowl and Rockrunner in the granite koppies around our lodge. Yet again our efforts proved unsuccessful, however, we did find many other exciting species such as African Hawk-Eagle, African Grey Hornbill, Crimson-breasted Shrike, Marico Sunbird and Grey-backed Camaroptera. A young albino Rock Hyrax was an interesting observation, and we all wondered how long this highly visible creature would survive! Other new mammals included Chacma Baboon and a distant (Hartmann's) Mountain Zebra.

After a late and impressive breakfast spread, we headed out for a short drive through the Erongo Conservancy. As it was already late morning, the mercury had already begun to rise, however, we did manage to find Monteiro's Hornbill, Swallow-tailed Bee-eater, White-tailed Shrike, Pririt Batis, Marico Flycatcher, Kalahari Scrub Robin and Short-toed Rock Thrush. While



on our drive we also encountered some large animals including South African Ground Squirrel, Springbok, Damara Dik-dik, Steenbok, Gemsbok, Greater Kudu and Giraffe.



This juvenile African Hawk-Eagle provided good looks in the Erongo Mountains.

We then enjoyed a leisurely lunch and some downtime during the extreme midday heat. In the early afternoon we took a drive out to a nearby dry riverbed where we were after Rüppell's Parrots which are frequently found feeding in the trees here. As hoped for, the parrots were again around today and we eventually enjoyed looks at yet another Namibia near endemic. Other interesting birds seen in the dry riverbed included African Hoopoe, Damara Red-billed Hornbill, White-tailed Shrike, Black-backed Puffback, Black-chested Prinia, Chestnut-vented Warbler, Cape Starling, Groundscraper Thrush and Kalahari Scrub Robin.

That evening, during dinner, we watched good numbers of **Double-banded Sandgrouse** coming in to drink at the waterhole once darkness had fallen, with several vocal **Freckled Nightjars** around too. After dinner, we decided to head out for a quick night drive through the Erongo Conservancy which proved rather productive, with highlights including **African Savanna Hare**, **Southern African Springhare** and several **Damara Dik-diks**.

Day 5, 6th November 2024. Erongo Mountains to Etosha National Park

We again birded around the lodge for the morning where we again concentrated on Hartlaub's Spurfowl and Rockrunner. We eventually had to give up with the spurfowls after not hearing a peep from them, however, right at the last minute we managed to find a Rockrunner calling close to the lodge. Other bird species that kept us entertained during our walk included Grey Goaway-bird, African Hawk-Eagle, White-tailed Shrike, Pririt Batis, Yellow-bellied



Eremomela, **Short-toed Rock Thrush** and **Dusky Sunbird**. After another scrumptious breakfast we loaded up the van and started making our way northwards to Etosha National Park.

The drive was a longish one and didn't prove too eventful, however, we enjoyed our first sightings of **Purple Roller** (just north of Omaruru) as well as **White-rumped Swift** and **Greater Striped Swallow**.

We arrived in Etosha in the early afternoon and checked into our accommodation at Okaukuejo Camp (a former German fort built in 1901 – the watch tower is part of the remnants of the fort) and enjoyed some time off during the heat of the early afternoon. Later in the afternoon (when it should have cooled down a bit but had not) we enjoyed a drive east of camp along the edge of the massive and dry Etosha Pan. Highlights along this drive included many open plains birds such as Common Ostrich, Double-banded Sandgrouse, Kori Bustard, Red-crested and Northern Black Korhaans, Pale Chanting Goshawk, Cape Crow, Stark's Lark, Chat Flycatcher and Great Sparrow. While waiting at Gemsbokvlakte waterhole we were entertained by Giraffe and Black Rhinoceros which came down to drink as well as a couple Black-backed Jackals – a lovely way to finish the afternoon.



Kori Bustards are always plentiful in Etosha National Park.

Later that evening after dinner, we enjoyed some time at the waterhole (a definite highlight of camps in Etosha) where we found bathing **Black Rhinoceroses** as well as a few **Rufous-cheeked Nightjars** which were feeding on insects attracted by the floodlights. This particular waterhole must surely be the best publicly accessible spot to view **Black Rhinoceros** in all of Africa. Not only is it a reliable spot to see the rhinos but you can watch the animals, sometimes for hours on end, as they go about socializing, and even vocalizing!



Day 6, 7th November 2024. Central Etosha; birds and large game

This morning we enjoyed a private open-top game drive from Okaukuejo. We again made our way east of camp and enjoyed further great sightings. Avian highlights of the morning included African Grey Hornbill, European Bee-eater, Greater Kestrel, Red-necked Falcon, Rufous-naped, Stark's and Red-capped Larks, Rufous-eared Warbler and Scaly-feathered Weaver. Some of our mammalian highlights included African Savanna Elephant, Black-backed Jackal, Banded Mongoose, Plains Zebra, Impala and Common Eland.

We got back into Okaukuejo in the late morning and decided to head out for a walk around the rest camp, which proved productive. It was good to stretch our legs after the morning in the vehicle and enjoyed the likes of Namaqua Dove, Little Grebe, Black-headed Heron, Purple Roller, Acacia Pied Barbet, Cardinal Woodpecker, Brubru, Crimson-breasted Shrike, Southern White-crowned Shrike, Spotted and Marico Flycatchers, Marico Sunbird, Sociable Weaver, Red-headed Finch, Shaft-tailed Whydah and Black-throated Canary. We ate lunch and then took some time off, before meeting up again in the late afternoon for another drive. The afternoon was a bit quieter, however, we did manage to find Namaqua Sandgrouse, Bateleur, Tawny Eagle, Red-necked Falcon, Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark, Spike-heeled, Stark's and Pink-billed Larks and Ant-eating Chat. We searched for Pygmy Falcons which nest inside the many Sociable Weavers nests in the area but, despite a concerted effort, we could not find our primary target for the afternoon. After dinner, some of us again enjoyed looks at Black Rhinos at the waterhole.



Red-necked Falcons are usually seen well in Etosha – this trip was no exception.



Day 7, 8th November 2024. Central to eastern Etosha; birds and large game

We had an early breakfast this morning as we had a long drive ahead of us, through the eastern half of Etosha. The drive was only about 100 miles (160 kilometers), however, it invariably takes most of the day because we travel at low speeds with *many* birding and wildlife stops en route. As we slowly made our way through the park, we continued to add new birds with some of the morning's top birds including **Lanner Falcon**, **Desert Cisticola** and **Red-breasted Swallow**. It was, however, mammals that stole the show this morning with some incredible sightings of a single **Cape Fox** and a small family of **Bat-eared Foxes**.

In the late morning, we entered Halali Camp and immediately began our search for a few special bird targets. We were successful and soon found **Bare-cheeked Babblers** and **Violet Wood Hoopoes** which both showed very well for us. The camp is always very birdy and we managed to find **Namaqua Dove**, **Southern Yellow-billed** and **Southern Red-billed Hornbills**, **White-crested Helmetshrike**, **Red-backed Shrike** and **Golden-breasted Bunting**.



Halali Camp in Etosha is an excellent place to see Bare-cheeked Babbler.

After our time at Halali we continued our journey eastwards through the park, where we checked numerous water holes, finding the likes of **Three-banded Plover**, **Wood** and **Curlew Sandpipers**, **Ruff** and **Little Stint**. We eventually left Etosha in the late afternoon and made our way to our lovely lodge, close to the eastern boundary of the park. We mostly took it easy around our lodge for the remainder of the afternoon but did find **Carp's Tit** and **Pearl-spotted Owlet**.



Day 8, 9th November 2024. Eastern Etosha; birds and large animals

We had the exciting prospect of a full day in eastern Etosha today and, after an early breakfast, we made our way back into the park to Dik-dik Drive, near Namutoni Camp. Along this circular drive we added the likes of Black-faced Babbler (about the only area of Etosha where this species occurs), White-browed Scrub Robin, White-bellied Sunbird, Red-billed Quelea, Red-headed Finch, Violet-eared and Blue Waxbills, Green-winged Pytilia and Shaft-tailed Whydah. Afterwards we headed north of Namutoni towards the Andoni Plains. En route we added brief flybys of Burchell's Sandgrouse as well as Common Scimitarbill, Brown-crowned Tchagra, Crimson-breasted Shrike and Barred Wren-Warbler. The open areas of the Andoni Plains were a little on the quiet side, but we did still manage to add Lappet-faced and White-backed Vultures, Bateleur, Eastern Clapper Lark, Buffy and African Pipits and a massive male Lion which appeared to have an injured leg. The waterholes in the area yielded South African Shelduck, Cape and Red-billed Teals and Ruff. On our way back south to Namutoni we stopped at a couple of waterholes and enjoyed good, long looks at drinking African Savanna Elephants as well as Greater Kudu and Hartebeest.



We were treated to scenes like this in Etosha. Here a **Black Rhinoceros** and a **Giraffe** compete for a waterhole.

We then entered Namutoni Camp (another old German fort) and enjoyed a late lunch. After lunch, we took a walk across to the waterhole, which had a few interesting birds around such as Allen's Gallinule (an unusual record for Etosha), Marsh Sandpiper and Marabou Stork. Other quality birds seen around Namutoni included African Cuckoo, Southern White-crowned Shrike, Red-faced Mousebird, Marico Sunbird, Red-billed Buffalo Weaver and Lesser Masked Weaver.



We returned to our lovely lodge in the late afternoon and enjoyed the early afternoon at our leisure. A late afternoon walk did not produce too much different, although we did enjoy further looks at **Pearl-spotted Owlet** and **Emerald-spotted Wood Dove**.



A trip to Etosha is never complete without a **Lion** sighting.

Day 9, 10th November 2024. Etosha National Park to the Kavango East Region

We had another long drive ahead of us today and so, after an early morning walk around the lodge (adding Carp's Tit, Chestnut Weaver, Black Cuckoo, Black-faced Waxbill and African Paradise Flycatcher), we had our breakfast and loaded up the van. We made a big movement east today, which resulted in a big change in the habitat as we entered the lusher Kavango East Region. Here tall woodlands dominate, and, in these woodlands, we came cross Wahlberg's Eagle, Magpie Shrike and Fawn-colored Lark.

In the early afternoon, we arrived at our lodge, which is ideally set along the edge of the Cubango River, overlooking Angola, and we took some time off after the long drive. Some late afternoon birding around the lodge grounds resulted in many new species, with the crème de la crème being the long-staying vagrant Ross's Turaco (well found by Tim). This species is extremely rare in Namibia, however, this lone bird has now been around the lodge grounds for the last couple of years and has entertained many twitchers and birders! The birding around the lodge grounds was, as usual, very productive and we added many new birds. Some of the highlights here included Senegal Coucal, Red-chested Cuckoo, Common Swift, African Wattled Lapwing, African Openbill, Woodland Kingfisher, Meyer's Parrot, Swamp Boubou, Terrestrial Brownbul, Arrow-marked Babbler, Kurrichane Thrush, White-browed Robin-Chat, Holub's Golden Weaver and Southern Brown-throated Weaver.



Later that evening, after dinner, we popped out briefly and soon managed to find the calling **African Barred Owlet** which we had heard earlier.



African Barred Owlet was seen on a nocturnal walk (photo Nico Heyning).

Day 10, 11th November 2024. East through the Kavango East Region, into Botswana

We spent a couple of hours before breakfast, birding around the property, which was very birdrich and we further added **Hartlaub's Babbler**, **Ashy Flycatcher** and **Red-eyed Dove** to our rapidly growing list. We made it back to the dining area just as the heavens opened and for the next 30 minutes or so we watched an almighty downpour.

After breakfast we loaded up the van and carried on eastwards. We stopped at the sewage works just outside of Rundu, where we quickly added **Red-knobbed Coot**, **African Swamphen** and **Lesser Swamp Warbler**. Over the next couple of hours, we enjoyed a couple birding stops in dense woodland along the way, which added the likes of **White-breasted Cuckooshrike** (brief flight views for some), **Tinkling Cisticola**, **Southern Black Flycatcher** and **Yellow-throated Bush Sparrow**.

We arrived at the Muhembo border crossing in the early afternoon which, as usual, was quick and painless and before we knew it, we were in Botswana and making our way towards the town of Shakawe. We were staying at Xaro Lodge, a lovely lodge on the edge of the Okavango Panhandle and soon caught the boat to our lodge. The boat ride to our lodge added our first looks at African Skimmer, Collared Pratincole, Striated Heron, Purple Heron, Giant and Malachite Kingfishers, Broad-billed Roller and Chirping Cisticola. After checking into our rooms, we enjoyed a quick walk around the property, which further yielded Green Wood Hoopoe and Meves's Starling.



We finished the day, with a drink in hand, overlooking the Kavango River as we watched flyover **Great White Egret**, **Purple Heron** and **White-faced Whistling Duck**. That night some of us heard the distant boom of **Pel's Fishing Owl**, hopefully a good omen for tomorrow's adventure!

Day 11, 12th November 2024. Okavango Panhandle boat cruise and birding

We started the morning with a walk around the tall riverine forest and woodland at the back of the property (with the lodge's guide, Tom) with our main target being a large ginger owl. It took some time but eventually Tom spotted a roosting Pel's Fishing Owl high up in a tree. We enjoyed prolonged views of this most-wanted owl, although it was quite obscured by thick vegetation. Other highlights of this walk included Mourning Collared Dove, African Green Pigeon, Square-tailed Nightjar, Saddle-billed Stork, Little Sparrowhawk, African Barred Owlet, Greater Honeyguide, Meyer's Parrot and Broad-billed Roller. Once back at the lodge we enjoyed observing some of the roosting bats in the area, including Peter's Epauletted Fruit Bat and Mauritian Tomb Bat.



Pel's Fishing Owl was a strong candidate for bird of the trip.

After our early morning walk, we enjoyed a quick sit-down breakfast before heading out on our first boat trip of the day. This morning we headed south along the panhandle, with the aim of making it to a nearby floodplain. En route to the floodplain we had some fine views of Copperytailed Coucal, African Swamphen, Black Crake, Water Thick-knee, Long-toed Lapwing, African Skimmer, Goliath Heron, African Marsh Harrier and African Fish Eagle. Along the way, we also had brief looks at a Rufous-bellied Heron as it flew by us. Arriving at the floodplain we took a walk out and eventually had good looks at Slaty Egrets feeding alongside Black Herons and Yellow-billed Egrets. The Okavango wetlands must represent one of the



most reliable places in the world to see **Slaty Egret**, a rather range-restricted species. While out on the floodplain, we also added **Plain-backed Pipit**, another new bird for our list. On our way back to the lodge, Tom picked out a roosting **White-backed Night Heron**, hidden deep in some riverside vegetation.

Later that afternoon, after a few hours off during the midday heat, we headed back out in the boat and this time made our way northwards along the main channel. Highlights of the afternoon included African Pygmy Goose, Common Swift, African Snipe, European Honey Buzzard, Blue-cheeked Bee-eater, Greater Swamp Warbler, Southern Brown-throated Weaver and Fan-tailed Widowbird. We again ended the day enjoying a drink on the banks of the Cubango River, while watching various herons and egrets flying by, including Black-crowned Night Heron and African Sacred Ibis which were both new trip birds.



Massive Goliath Herons were enjoyed along our Okavango boat cruises.

Day 12, 13th November 2024. Back into Namibia and birding the Mahango area

We again decided to take a walk in the woodland behind the lodge to try improve our views of **Pel's Fishing Owl** and see what else we might find here. This morning the owl proved more cooperative as it sat out on a more exposed perch, allowing us to improve our views and photos. Other nice additions this morning included **African Golden Oriole** and **Grey Tit-Flycatcher**, unfortunately the calling **Little Rush Warblers** would not show themselves though.

We bade our farewells to Xaro Lodge and made our way back through the Botswana-Namibia border, which again proved quick and easy. We took our time as we made our way back north through Mahangu Game Reserve and enjoyed large numbers of birds and animals out in the floodplain and in the surrounding woodlands. Some of our avian highlights for the couple of hours spent here included **White-browed Coucal**, **Wattled Crane** (as many as five birds!),



Long-toed Lapwing, Collared Pratincole, African Openbill, Marabou and Yellow-billed Storks, Little Bee-eater, Lesser Grey Shrike, Fawn-colored Lark, Burnt-necked Eremomela and Kurrichane Thrush. We were also entertained by large numbers of animals such as African Savanna Elephant, Plains Zebra, Common Warthog, Common Hippopotamus and several antelope species including Tsessebe, Impala, Southern Lechwe, Southern Reedbuck and Southern Bushbuck.

We arrived at our accommodation along the edge of the Cubango River (this time in Namibia) in the early afternoon and enjoyed some time off during the heat of the day. Once it had cooled down a bit, we boarded our private boat and enjoyed a relaxed trip along the Cubango River. One of our early stops was a **Southern Carmine Bee-eater** colony, where we spent a while enjoying eye-level views of these beautifully colored bee-eaters, with **Little** and **White-fronted Bee-eaters** also seen nearby. Other standout species on our boat cruise included **Knob-billed Duck**, **Rock Pratincole**, **African Skimmer**, **White-winged Tern**, **Striated Heron**, **Swallow-tailed Bee-eater** and **Holub's Golden Weaver**. To finish the boat trip, we enjoyed sundowners on a small island overlooking Popa Falls, with a distant storm rumbling in the background.



We enjoyed close-up views of a colony of **Southern Carmine Bee-eaters** along the Cubango River.

Day 13, 14th November 2024. Birding the Mahangu area

This morning we had a very early start so that we could arrive in woodlands about 50 miles (70 kilometers) west of Divundu to look for a few scarce and localized targets; namely Souza's Shrike, Sharp-tailed Starling and Rufous-bellied Tit. We picked up the area's local guide and expert, Christoph, and made our way west and managed to arrive just after sunrise. After a quick bite to eat, we set off into the woodlands and quickly started finding interesting bird species such



as Shikra, Grey-headed Kingfisher, Purple Roller, Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird, Brown-backed Honeybird, Chinspot Batis, Fawn-colored Lark, Tinkling Cisticola, Neddicky (Piping Cisticola), Southern Yellow White-eye, Pale and Southern Black Flycatchers and Yellow-fronted Canary. After about 30 minutes we arrived at the Souza's Shrike territory and soon thereafter we found the bird in question and managed prolonged looks at this scarce resident.



Souza's Shrike was one of our targets in the woodlands west of Divundu.

We then moved to another nearby patch of woodland where we soon found **Sharp-tailed Starling** and also found a few attractive **Cut-throat Finches** while looking at the starling. After some work we eventually had prolonged and nearby views of a group of about six **Sharp-tailed Starlings** which were great to see. We spent some time birding the general area here and managed to further add **Diederik** and **African Cuckoos**, **Striped Kingfisher**, **Black-headed Oriole**, **African Paradise Flycatcher**, **Yellow-billed Oxpecker**, **Arnot's Chat** and **Golden-breasted Bunting**. Despite searching a few other areas for the Rufous-bellied Tit, we eventually had to accept fate and made our way back to our lodge for lunch.

We again took time off during the heat of the day, then headed out to a nearby floodplain which we birded for a couple of hours and managed to add a few new species. We had hoped to find Temminck's Coursers here and it did not take too long for a small group to show and provide us with good looks. Other highlights here included Meyer's Parrot, White-throated, Lesser Striped and Mosque Swallows as well as Lesser Grey Shrike. We spent some time scanning the river which further added Water Thick-knee, Common Greenshank, African Skimmer and Collared Pratincole.



Day 14, 15th November 2024. Transfer to Zambezi Region

We had a long drive ahead of us today, so started with a relaxed walk in the area surrounding the lodge. The birding was a little slow this morning, but we did eventually add **Brown-crowned Tchagra**, **Black-faced Waxbill**, **Village Indigobird** and drastically improved our views of **Bradfield's Hornbill**, with a confiding bird seen displaying nearby to us.

After breakfast, we loaded up the van and hit the long straight road to Katima Mulilo, as we continued on our way eastwards through the Zambezi Region. Excitingly, we drove through Caprivi Game Park for some of the journey and a couple of roadside stops added **Martial Eagle**, **Bateleur**, **Lizard Buzzard** and **Common Ostrich**, while the undoubted highlight was when Nico shouted out 'Cheetah' and we turned the van around to find a lone **Cheetah** sat just off the side of the road! We watched this regal animal for a while as it nonchalantly lay in the shade of a tree. We couldn't believe our luck/Nico's skill at spotting it and happily continued on our way east.

We arrived at our next lodge just outside Katima Mulilo, on the banks of the Zambezi River, in the early afternoon and boarded a boat to enjoy another private boat cruise. Our big target this afternoon was African Finfoot, which did not prove tricky to find, and over the course of the cruise we probably found five or six different individuals. Once finfoot was sorted, we moved onto other species and managed to further find Schalow's Turaco, White-browed Coucal, White-crowned Lapwing, Greater Painted-snipe, African Skimmer, White-backed Night Heron, Giant and Brown-hooded Kingfishers, Pale-throated Greenbul and Holub's Golden Weaver.



We had relatively good views of White-backed Night Heron along the Zambezi River.



After dinner (with **African Wood Owl** as nice distraction), the day was not yet done, as a few of us headed out on a night drive to look for various owls and nightjars. Our main target was the spectacular **Pennant-winged Nightjar** and an impressive male duly obliged for us and gave us fantastic looks as it flew leisurely by, with full pennants on display! While out in the woodlands, we managed to find **Fiery-necked Nightjar**, **African Scops Owl** and **Southern White-faced Owl**. A fitting end to another wonderful day's birding!

Day 15, 16th November 2024. Katima Mulilo birding

We had the full day to explore the exciting wetlands and woodlands of this incredibly bird-rich corner of Namibia and set out early to look for a pair of African Broadbills which had recently been seen nearby. Unfortunately, the broadbills were a no-show, but we did manage to find **Trumpeter Hornbill**, **Eastern Nicator** and **White-browed Coucal** in the general area, before the consistent drizzle got a bit much for us. On the way back to the lodge, we birded some nearby woodlands which held **Eurasian Golden Oriole** and a pair of showy **Grey-headed Bushshrikes**.

While enjoying breakfast we had our first looks at Bronze Mannikin and Common Myna (an invasive species in Namibia). Then we headed out again to see some nearby mature woodlands which often hold some good birds. These woodlands were a little on the quiet side this morning, but we did manage to find African Golden Oriole, White-crested Helmetshrike and Woodland Kingfisher. Another patch of woodlands was far more productive as we found Klaas's Cuckoo, Little Bee-eater, Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird, Black-crowned Tchagra, Tropical Boubou and a pair of Brown Firefinches.



Lesser Jacanas are seen reliably around Katima Mulilo.



With the temperature rising, we decided to go bird some nearby wetlands. This turned out to be a good idea, as we found an obliging pair of Lesser Jacanas alongside Blue-billed Teal, Long-toed Lapwing, African Snipe, Marsh Sandpiper, Malachite Kingfisher and Fan-tailed Widowbird. We were also excited to find a single Wood Pipit nearby, a rare bird in Namibia! A showy Lilac-breasted Roller was enjoyed by us all, and particularly by Ruth who had been hoping for a Lilac-breasted Roller in glorious morning light!

We took our usual downtime during the heat of the day, before heading out in the late afternoon to bird the Chobe River floodplain. The heat was rather oppressive this afternoon, which likely explained why the birding was a bit on the slow side. We did, however, manage to eke out a few good birds in the form of **Greater Blue-eared Starling**, **African Openbill** and **Dark Chanting Goshawk**. We tried a couple areas for Collared Palm Thrush but, in the end, we had to settle for a showy **Bearded Woodpecker** (with **Olive Woodpecker** also seen around the lodge that afternoon). That evening we enjoyed a tasty dinner followed by birthday cake to celebrate with Todd.



It took a while, but we eventually had good looks at Dark Chanting Goshawk.

Day 16, 17th November 2024. Katima Mulilo to Livingstone

We had the morning to bird around Katima Mulilo, before we headed into Zambia, and so we again birded the nearby woodlands to try for African Broadbill, which were again not around. The birding in the general area was, however, much better this morning and we managed to find Crested Francolin, African Emerald Cuckoo, Black Sparrowhawk, Broad-billed Roller, Black Cuckooshrike and White-bellied Sunbird. Some nearby riverine woodlands produced some fantastic views of several feeding Schalow's Turacos, along with African Green Pigeon, Green Wood Hoopoe, Garden Warbler, Purple-banded Sunbird and Southern Black Tit.



It was then time to load up the van and make our way further east towards Livingstone. We made the crossing into Zambia by going through Botswana and Chobe National Park. The park itself was rather quiet (heat of the day) but we did find **White-backed Vulture**, **Marabou Stork** (feeding in the local landfill) and **Tawny Eagle**. The Zambia border crossing took a while (as it always does, moving from counter to counter, with lots of paperwork to fill out) but we eventually made it into our beautiful lodge in the early afternoon.

This afternoon we boarded a boat for another Zambezi boat cruise, always a great way to end the day. While out on the water we enjoyed looks at some huge Common Hippopotamus and Nile Crocodiles, with some of the avian highlights including White-crowned Lapwing, Rock Pratincole, Whiskered Tern, Yellow-billed Stork, White-breasted Cormorant, Goliath Heron, Pink-backed and Great White Pelicans, Osprey, Hooded Vulture and Ayres's Hawk-Eagle. Watching two African Savanna Elephants coming down to drink in the late afternoon light was certainly another highlight. The cruise ended with an impressive sunset before we headed back to the lodge for another tasty dinner.



We enjoyed an assortment of waterbirds on our Zambezi boat cruise including **Grey Heron**, **African Sacred Ibis** and **Pink-backed Pelican**.

Day 17, 18th November 2024. Victoria Falls and Livingstone birding

Today was the final full day of the tour and we headed out early to some nearby miombo woodland to see if there were any last-minute list additions. The woodlands were quiet to begin with but things soon picked up, with Racket-tailed Roller (a displaying bird), African Golden Oriole, Stierling's Wren-Warbler and Bearded Woodpecker all seen. We were excited to have nice looks at both Eurasian and African Hobbies feeding overhead. The undoubted



highlight of the morning was hearing and seeing (well spotted by Nico, of course) a group of **Southern Ground Hornbills**. These huge terrestrial hornbills are always a crowd favorite!

Breakfast, on the deck overlooking the Zambezi River, was very pleasant and then it was time to head into the van and spend the morning at Victoria Falls. The falls themselves are generally more impressive from the Zimbabwean side and so, after negotiating the border (a much quicker process today), we enjoyed a couple hours walking around the falls area, admiring this World Heritage Site. One of the local names for the falls is Mosi-oa Tunya which means 'the smoke that thunders' and this name is certainly appropriate. We, of course, were looking out for birds while enjoying the falls and new birds here included **Bearded Scrub Robin**, **Red-throated Twinspot** and **Red-winged Starling**.

This afternoon (once back in Zambia) some went out on another sunset boat cruise, while a few of us took a leisurely walk around the lodge grounds, which produced **Natal Spurfowl**, **White-browed Coucal**, **Red-faced Cisticola**, **Bearded Scrub Robin** and **Collared Palm Thrush**. Later that evening we enjoyed our final dinner of the trip and reminisced on an enjoyable and successful trip through southern Africa.



Collared Palm Thrush showed well in the riparian forest on the edge of the Zambezi River.

Day 18, 19th November 2024. Livingstone birding and departure

To finish off the trip's birding we took a leisurely stroll around the lodge grounds, which added more of yesterday afternoon's birds, along with Schalow's Turaco, African Goshawk, Violetbacked Starling and Red-headed Weaver.

We then enjoyed breakfast and most of us headed towards Livingstone Airport, saying goodbye to Angie and Larry (who had a couple nights at the lodge). Thanks everyone for a highly enjoyable and successful tour, I hope to travel with you all again soon!



Bird List - Following IOC (Version 14.2/August 2024)

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 BirdLife International: CR = Critically Endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, NT = Near Threatened.

Common name	Scientific name
Ostriches (Struthionidae)	
Common Ostrich	Struthio camelus
Ducks, Geese, Swans (Anatidae)	
White-faced Whistling Duck	Dendrocygna viduata
Spur-winged Goose	Plectropterus gambensis
Knob-billed Duck	Sarkidiornis melanotos
Egyptian Goose	Alopochen aegyptiaca
South African Shelduck	Tadorna cana
African Pygmy Goose	Nettapus auritus
Blue-billed Teal	Spatula hottentota
Cape Teal	Anas capensis
Red-billed Teal	Anas erythrorhyncha
Guineafowl (Numididae)	
Helmeted Guineafowl	Numida meleagris
Pheasants & Allies (Phasianidae)	
Crested Francolin	Ortygornis sephaena
Red-billed Spurfowl	Pternistis adspersus
Natal Spurfowl	Pternistis natalensis
Swainson's Spurfowl	Pternistis swainsonii
Nightjars (Caprimulgidae)	
Rufous-cheeked Nightjar	Caprimulgus rufigena
Fiery-necked Nightjar	Caprimulgus pectoralis
Freckled Nightjar	Caprimulgus tristigma
Square-tailed Nightjar	Caprimulgus fossii
Pennant-winged Nightjar	Caprimulgus vexillarius
<u> </u>	1 3
Swifts (Apodidae)	
African Palm Swift	Cypsiurus parvus
Common Swift	Apus apus
Little Swift	Apus affinis
White-rumped Swift	Apus caffer



Common name	Scientific name
Turacos (Musophagidae)	
Grey Go-away-bird	Crinifer concolor
Ross's Turaco	Tauraco rossae
Schalow's Turaco	Tauraco schalowi
Bustards (Otididae)	
Kori Bustard	Ardeotis kori
Rüppell's Korhaan	Heterotetrax rueppelii
Red-crested Korhaan	Lophotis ruficrista
Northern Black Korhaan	Afrotis afraoides
Cushess (Cusulidas)	
Cuckoos (Cuculidae)	Controller
Senegal Coucal	Centropus senegalensis
Coppery-tailed Coucal	Centropus cupreicaudus
White-browed Coucal	Centropus superciliosus
Levaillant's Cuckoo	Clamator levaillantii
Jacobin Cuckoo	Clamator jacobinus
Diederik Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx caprius
Klaas's Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx klaas
African Emerald Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx cupreus
Black Cuckoo	Cuculus clamosus
Red-chested Cuckoo	Cuculus solitarius
African Cuckoo	Cuculus gularis
Sandgrouse (Pteroclidae)	
Namaqua Sandgrouse	Pterocles namaqua
Double-banded Sandgrouse	Pterocles bicinctus
Burchell's Sandgrouse	Pterocles burchelli
D' D (C.I. I.I.)	
Pigeons, Doves (Columbidae)	C-1h lii
Rock Dove	Columba livia
Speckled Pigeon	Columba guinea
Mourning Collared Dove	Streptopelia decipiens
Red-eyed Dove	Streptopelia semitorquata
Ring-necked Dove	Streptopelia capicola
Laughing Dove	Spilopelia senegalensis
Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	Turtur chalcospilos
Namaqua Dove	Oena capensis
African Green Pigeon	Treron calvus
Finfoots (Heliornithidae)	I
African Finfoot	Podica senegalensis
Della Cashan (C. 4 /D. IP.)	
Rails, Crakes & Coots (Rallidae)	



Common name	Scientific name
Common Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus
Red-knobbed Coot	Fulica cristata
Allen's Gallinule	Porphyrio alleni
African Swamphen	Porphyrio madagascariensis
Black Crake	Zapornia flavirostra
Cranes (Gruidae)	
Wattled Crane - VU	Grus carunculata
Blue Crane - VU	Grus paradisea
Grebes (Podicipedidae)	
Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis
Flamingos (Phoenicopteridae)	
Greater Flamingo	Phoenicopterus roseus
Lesser Flamingo	Phoeniconaias minor
Lesser Frammigo	Fnoeniconatas minor
Stone-curlews, Thick-knees (Burhinidae)	
Water Thick-knee	Burhinus vermiculatus
Water Thick knee	Bullium verimentus
Oystercatchers (Haematopodidae)	
African Oystercatcher	Haematopus moquini
Stilts, Avocets (Recurvirostridae)	
Black-winged Stilt	Himantopus himantopus
Pied Avocet	Recurvirostra avosetta
Plovers (Charadriidae)	
Grey Plover	Pluvialis squatarola
Common Ringed Plover	Charadrius hiaticula
Three-banded Plover	Charadrius tricollaris
Long-toed Lapwing	Vanellus crassirostris
Blacksmith Lapwing	Vanellus armatus
White-crowned Lapwing	Vanellus albiceps
Crowned Lapwing	Vanellus coronatus
African Wattled Lapwing	Vanellus senegallus
Chestnut-banded Plover	Anarhynchus pallidus
White-fronted Plover	Anarhynchus marginatus
Painted spines (Postratulidae)	
Painted-snipes (Rostratulidae) Greater Painted-snipe	Postratula hanghalansis
Oreater Fainteu-Shipe	Rostratula benghalensis
Jacanas (Jacanidae)	
Lesser Jacana	Micronarya canonsis
Lessei Jacana	Microparra capensis



Common name	Scientific name
African Jacana	Actophilornis africanus
Sandpipers, Snipes (Scolopacidae)	
Eurasian Whimbrel	Numenius phaeopus
Bar-tailed Godwit	Limosa lapponica
African Snipe	Gallinago nigripennis
Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos
Marsh Sandpiper	Tringa stagnatilis
Wood Sandpiper	Tringa glareola
Common Greenshank	Tringa nebularia
Ruddy Turnstone	Arenaria interpres
Ruff	Calidris pugnax
Curlew Sandpiper	Calidris ferruginea
Sanderling	Calidris alba
Little Stint	Calidris minuta
Coursers, Pratincoles (Glareolidae)	
Double-banded Courser	Rhinoptilus africanus
Temminck's Courser	Cursorius temminckii
Rock Pratincole	Glareola nuchalis
Collared Pratincole	Glareola pratincola
Gulls, Terns, Skimmers (Laridae)	•
African Skimmer	Rynchops flavirostris
Damara Tern	Sternula balaenarum
Camina Tam	Hydroprogne caspia
Caspian Tern	119 th op: 08:10 thispith
Whiskered Tern	Chlidonias hybrida
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Whiskered Tern Black Tern	Chlidonias hybrida
Whiskered Tern	Chlidonias hybrida Chlidonias niger
Whiskered Tern Black Tern White-winged Tern	Chlidonias hybrida Chlidonias niger Chlidonias leucopterus
Whiskered Tern Black Tern White-winged Tern Arctic Tern	Chlidonias hybrida Chlidonias niger Chlidonias leucopterus Sterna paradisaea
Whiskered Tern Black Tern White-winged Tern Arctic Tern Common Tern	Chlidonias hybrida Chlidonias niger Chlidonias leucopterus Sterna paradisaea Sterna hirundo Thalasseus sandvicensis
Whiskered Tern Black Tern White-winged Tern Arctic Tern Common Tern Sandwich Tern	Chlidonias hybrida Chlidonias niger Chlidonias leucopterus Sterna paradisaea Sterna hirundo Thalasseus sandvicensis Thalasseus bergii
Whiskered Tern Black Tern White-winged Tern Arctic Tern Common Tern Sandwich Tern Greater Crested Tern Hartlaub's Gull	Chlidonias hybrida Chlidonias niger Chlidonias leucopterus Sterna paradisaea Sterna hirundo Thalasseus sandvicensis
Whiskered Tern Black Tern White-winged Tern Arctic Tern Common Tern Sandwich Tern Greater Crested Tern	Chlidonias hybrida Chlidonias niger Chlidonias leucopterus Sterna paradisaea Sterna hirundo Thalasseus sandvicensis Thalasseus bergii Chroicocephalus hartlaubii
Whiskered Tern Black Tern White-winged Tern Arctic Tern Common Tern Sandwich Tern Greater Crested Tern Hartlaub's Gull	Chlidonias hybrida Chlidonias niger Chlidonias leucopterus Sterna paradisaea Sterna hirundo Thalasseus sandvicensis Thalasseus bergii Chroicocephalus hartlaubii
Whiskered Tern Black Tern White-winged Tern Arctic Tern Common Tern Sandwich Tern Greater Crested Tern Hartlaub's Gull Kelp Gull	Chlidonias hybrida Chlidonias niger Chlidonias leucopterus Sterna paradisaea Sterna hirundo Thalasseus sandvicensis Thalasseus bergii Chroicocephalus hartlaubii Larus dominicanus
Whiskered Tern Black Tern White-winged Tern Arctic Tern Common Tern Sandwich Tern Greater Crested Tern Hartlaub's Gull Kelp Gull Northern Storm Petrels (Hydrobatidae)	Chlidonias hybrida Chlidonias niger Chlidonias leucopterus Sterna paradisaea Sterna hirundo Thalasseus sandvicensis Thalasseus bergii Chroicocephalus hartlaubii
Whiskered Tern Black Tern White-winged Tern Arctic Tern Common Tern Sandwich Tern Greater Crested Tern Hartlaub's Gull Kelp Gull Northern Storm Petrels (Hydrobatidae)	Chlidonias hybrida Chlidonias niger Chlidonias leucopterus Sterna paradisaea Sterna hirundo Thalasseus sandvicensis Thalasseus bergii Chroicocephalus hartlaubii Larus dominicanus Hydrobates pelagicus
Whiskered Tern Black Tern White-winged Tern Arctic Tern Common Tern Sandwich Tern Greater Crested Tern Hartlaub's Gull Kelp Gull Northern Storm Petrels (Hydrobatidae) European Storm Petrel	Chlidonias hybrida Chlidonias niger Chlidonias leucopterus Sterna paradisaea Sterna hirundo Thalasseus sandvicensis Thalasseus bergii Chroicocephalus hartlaubii Larus dominicanus Hydrobates pelagicus
Whiskered Tern Black Tern White-winged Tern Arctic Tern Common Tern Sandwich Tern Greater Crested Tern Hartlaub's Gull Kelp Gull Northern Storm Petrels (Hydrobatidae) European Storm Petrel	Chlidonias hybrida Chlidonias niger Chlidonias leucopterus Sterna paradisaea Sterna hirundo Thalasseus sandvicensis Thalasseus bergii Chroicocephalus hartlaubii Larus dominicanus Hydrobates pelagicus ellariidae)







Common name	Scientific name
African Hoopoe	Upupa africana
•	
Wood Hoopoes (Phoeniculidae)	
Green Wood Hoopoe	Phoeniculus purpureus
Violet Wood Hoopoe	Phoeniculus damarensis
Common Scimitarbill	Rhinopomastus cyanomelas
Ground Hornbills (Bucorvidae)	
Southern Ground Hornbill - VU	Bucorvus leadbeateri
Hornbills (Bucerotidae)	
Damara Red-billed Hornbill	Tockus damarensis
Southern Red-billed Hornbill	Tockus rufirostris
Monteiro's Hornbill	Tockus monteiri
Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill	Tockus leucomelas
Bradfield's Hornbill	Lophoceros bradfieldi
African Grey Hornbill	Lophoceros nasutus
Trumpeter Hornbill	Bycanistes bucinator
Rollers (Coraciidae)	
Purple Roller	Coracias naevius
Racket-tailed Roller	Coracias spatulatus
Lilac-breasted Roller	Coracias caudatus
Broad-billed Roller	Eurystomus glaucurus
Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)	
Grey-headed Kingfisher	Halcyon leucocephala
Brown-hooded Kingfisher	Halcyon albiventris
Striped Kingfisher	Halcyon chelicuti
Woodland Kingfisher	Halcyon senegalensis
Malachite Kingfisher	Corythornis cristatus
Giant Kingfisher	Megaceryle maxima
Pied Kingfisher	Ceryle rudis
Bee-eaters (Meropidae)	
Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	Merops hirundineus
Little Bee-eater	Merops pusillus
White-fronted Bee-eater	Merops bullockoides
Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	Merops persicus
European Bee-eater	Merops apiaster
Southern Carmine Bee-eater	Merops nubicoides
African Barbets (Lybiidae)	
Crested Barbet	Trachyphonus vaillantii





Common name	Scientific name
Vangas & Allies (Vangidae)	
White-crested Helmetshrike	Prionops plumatus
Cuckooshrikes (Campephagidae)	
White-breasted Cuckooshrike	Ceblepyris pectoralis
Black Cuckooshrike	Campephaga flava
Fili Lollw Ho i Loi Loi (o	• • • •
Figbirds, Old World Orioles, Piopios (O	1 /
Black-headed Oriole	Oriolus larvatus
African Golden Oriole	Oriolus auratus
Eurasian Golden Oriole	Oriolus oriolus
Drongos (Dicruridae)	
Fork-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus adsimilis
1 ork-tailed Drongo	Dictarus ausmitus
Monarchs (Monarchidae)	1
African Paradise Flycatcher	Terpsiphone viridis
	, ,
Shrikes (Laniidae)	
Southern White-crowned Shrike	Eurocephalus anguitimens
Magpie Shrike	Lanius melanoleucus
Souza's Shrike	Lanius souzae
Southern Fiscal	Lanius collaris
Lesser Grey Shrike	Lanius minor
Red-backed Shrike	Lanius collurio
Crows, Jays (Corvidae)	
Cape Crow	Corvus capensis
Pied Crow	Corvus albus
Tite Cities I (D. 11)	
Tits, Chickadees (Paridae)	16.1
Southern Black Tit	Melaniparus niger
Carp's Tit	Melaniparus carpi
Nicators (Nicatoridae)	
Eastern Nicator	Nicator gularis
	- Trouver Suren to
Larks (Alaudidae)	•
Spike-heeled Lark	Chersomanes albofasciata
Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark	Eremopterix verticalis
Sabota Lark	Calendulauda sabota
Fawn-colored Lark	Calendulauda africanoides
Dune Lark	Calendulauda erythrochlamys











Common name	Scientific name
Buntings (Emberizidae)	
Golden-breasted Bunting	Emberiza flaviventris

Total seen	393
Total heard only	3
Total recorded	396

Mammal List – Following Mammalwatching.com (November 2024)

Common name	Scientific name
Sengis (Macroscelididae)	
Bushveld Sengi	Elephantulus intufi
Western Rock Sengi	Elephantulus rupestris
Elephants (Elephantidae)	
African Savanna Elephant - EN	Loxodonta africana
W (D 111)	
Hyraxes (Procaviidae)	15
Rock Hyrax	Procavia capensis
Old World Monkow (Compatible 11	
Old World Monkeys (Cercopithecidae)	Climan
Vervet Monkey	Chlorocebus pygerythrus
Chacma Baboon	Papio ursinus
Galagos (Galagidae)	L
Southern Lesser Galago	Galago moholi
Hares and Rabbits (Leporidae)	
African Savanna Hare	Lepus microtis
Smith's Red Rock Hare	Pronolagus rupestris
Squirrels (Sciuridae)	
South African Ground Squirrel	Geosciurus inauris
Damara Ground Squirrel	Geosciurus princeps
Springhares (Pedetidae)	
Southern African Springhare	Pedetes capensis
Source Filliam Spinishure	2 dates capensis
Old World Fruit Bats (Pteropodidae)	1
Peters's Epauletted Fruit Bat	Epomophorus crypturus





Common name	Scientific name
Waterbuck	Kobus ellipsiprymnus
Southern Lechwe	Kobus leche
Southern Reedbuck	Redunca arundinum
Common Eland	Tragelaphus oryx
Greater Kudu	Tragelaphus strepsiceros
Southern Bushbuck	Tragelaphus sylvaticus
Giraffes and Okapi (Giraffidae)	
Southern Giraffe	Giraffa giraffa
Suids (Suidae)	
` '	Dharasha ann a afair ann a
Common Warthog	Phacochoerus africanus
Hippopotamuses (Hippopotamidae)	
Common Hippopotamus - VU	Hippopotamus amphibius
Rorquals (Balaenopteridae)	
Humpback Whale	Megaptera novaeangliae
Oceanic Dolphins (Delphinidae)	
Common Bottlenose Dolphin	Tursiops truncatus

Reptile List

Common name	Scientific name
Crocodiles (Crocodylidae)	•
Nile Crocodile	Crocodylus niloticus
Vipers (Viperidae)	
Horned Adder	Bitis caudalis
Dragons (Agamidae) - 1 / 578	
Namib Rock Agama	Agama planiceps
Typical Geckos (Gekkonidae)	
Common Namib Day Gecko	Rhoptropus afer
Plated Lizards (Gerrhosauridae)	
Black-lined Plated Lizard	Gerrhosaurus nigrolineatus
Wall Lizards (Lacertidae)	



11

Total seen

Namaqua Sand Lizard	Pedioplanis namaquensis
Wedge-snouted Desert Lizard	Meroles cuneirostris
Skinks (Scincidae)	
Ovambo Tree Skink	Trachylepis binotata
Wahlberg's Striped Skink	Trachylepis wahlbergii
Monitor Lizards (Varanidae)	
Nile Monitor	Varanus niloticus
African Mud Turtles (Pelomedusidae)	
Helmeted Turtle	Pelomedusa subrufa

