

# NAMIBIA AND OKAVANGO: GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY CUSTOM TRIP REPORT

## 25 AUGUST - 5 SEPTEMBER 2019

By Dominic Rollinson



We encountered large numbers of breeding African Skimmers on our Okavango boat trip.



### Overview

This custom tour was put together for the Golden Gate Audubon Society and was designed to include a broad diversity of birds (including many Namibian near-endemics) and other wildlife. We traveled from the Namib Desert in the west to the panhandle of the Okavango Delta in the east. As the tour covered a good cross-section of Namibia and Botswana we also took in some truly impressive scenery and amazing African sunsets. We saw 296 species (and an additional four species were heard only) on this 12-day tour, including such highlights as African Pygmy Goose, Hartlaub's Spurfowl, Rüppell's Korhaan, Cape Gannet, White-backed Night Heron, Bank, Crowned, and Cape Cormorants, Ayres's Hawk-Eagle, Wattled and Blue Cranes, Burchell's and Double-banded Coursers, Rock Pratincole, African Skimmer, Burchell's Sandgrouse, Coppery-tailed Coucal, Racket-tailed Roller, Violet Wood Hoopoe, Damara Red-billed, Bradfield's, and Monteiro's Hornbills, Pygmy and Red-necked Falcons, Rüppell's Parrot, Carp's Tit, Gray's, Dune, Stark's, Karoo Long-billed, and Pink-billed Larks, Mosque Swallow, Rockrunner, Bare-cheeked Babbler, Orange River White-eye, and many others.



We had fantastic views of Carp's Tit in Etosha National Park.

As always with trips through Namibia and Botswana we also came across a number of exciting mammals species, including Lion, African Elephant, Black and White Rhinoceros, African Buffalo, Roan Antelope, Gemsbok, Red Lechwe, Tsessebe, Damara Dik-dik, Cape Fox, Kaokoland Slender Mongoose, Honey Badger, Dassie Rat, Bushveld Elephant-shrew, and Spotted-necked Otter.



#### **Detailed Report**

## Day 1, 25th August 2019. Arrival in Walvis Bay

As we had all arrived in Walvis Bay the day before we could get an early start birding, and after our breakfast overlooking the lagoon (complete with feeding flamingos) we made our way to the Walvis Bay Salt Works. Waders and waterbirds were on the menu this morning, and it didn't take long until we had ticked off both **Greater** and **Lesser Flamingos**, **Common Whimbrel**, **Cape Teal**, **Common Greenshank**, **White-fronted** and **Chestnut-banded Plovers**, **Blackwinged Stilt**, **Pied Avocet**, **Curlew Sandpiper**, and **Little Stint**. As we moved farther into the saltworks we found good numbers of **Terns** including **Common**, **Arctic**, **Greater Crested**, and **Caspian**, however, unfortunately no Damara Tern; it would appear they were still off West Africa in their wintering grounds. We continued to work through the large numbers of shorebirds and managed to pick out **Ruddy Turnstone**, **Bar-tailed Godwit**, **Ruff**, **Common Sandpiper**, and a few **Red-necked Phalaropes**.

After a hearty lunch we birded in the lodge garden, and here we found **Orange River White-eye**, **Namaqua Dove**, **Dusky Sunbird**, and **Red-faced Mousebird**, while a number of **South African Cliff Swallows** were seen along the esplanade. Later in the afternoon we took a drive to Rooibank, where we had fantastic views of at least three **Dune Larks** (Namibia's only endemic bird species) along with our first **Pale Chanting Goshawk**, **Pale-winged Starling**, and a few fly-over **Grey-backed Sparrow-Larks**.



A friendly **Tractrac Chat was** seen in the Namib Desert near Swakopmund.



# Day 2, 26th August 2019. Boat cruise and birding around Swakopmund

This morning we had a very enjoyable boat cruise around Walvis Bay Lagoon, and although we did not have any luck with Heaviside's Dolphin we did find Wilson's Storm Petrel, Cape Gannet, Sooty Shearwater, Cape Cormorant, Great White Pelican (being hand-fed by the skipper), and African Oystercatcher. We also visited the massive Cape Fur Seal colony, which is always overwhelming for the senses of sight, sound, and smell!

We then took a drive north along the coast to Swakopmund, stopping at the guano platform en route for a full suite of marine **Cormorants** (**Bank**, **Crowned**, **Cape**, and **White-breasted**), and then headed inland into the Namib Desert. In the desert bird numbers were really low; however, we did encounter a few extremely confiding **Tractrac Chats** and a small group of **Gray's Larks** (a Namibian near-endemic bird). Farther along we found good numbers of the impressive, desert-adapted plant *Welwitschia mirabilis*. After a long, successful day we enjoyed a seafood dinner before packing it in for the evening.



Monteiro's Hornbill was one of six hornbill species seen on this tour.

# Day 3, 27th August 2019. Walvis Bay to Erongo Mountains

We had an early breakfast today so that we could get in some desert birding before things heated up too much. We were heading inland to Erongo Wilderness Lodge but had some important birds to target en route. We birded the road to Spitzkoppe, which proved productive, and soon managed to find **Karoo Long-billed Lark**, **Namaqua Sandgrouse**, **Chestnut-vented Warbler**, and another small group of **Gray's Larks**. Birding and lunch at the Spitzkoppe Nature Reserve were also worthwhile, since we soon found **Black-chested Snake Eagle**, **Yellow-bellied Eremomela**, **Monteiro's Hornbill**, **Mountain Wheatear**, **Layard's Warbler**, **Pririt Batis**, **White-throated Canary**, **Common Scimitarbill**, and the two big targets, **Herero Chat** and



White-tailed Shrike. On our way out of the reserve we found Marico and Chat Flycatchers, and Eric produced the goods when he spotted a small group of Rüppell's Korhaans. Close to Karibib we scoped a field and eventually had distant views of both Double-banded (well spotted, Bob!) and Burchell's Coursers as well as Ant-eating Chat and Southern Fiscal.

We arrived at Erongo Wilderness Lodge late in the afternoon and enjoyed a drink on the deck as we watched **Monteiro's Hornbill**, **Acacia Pied Barbet**, **Rosy-faced Lovebird**, and **Short-toed Rock Thrush**. Later that evening we had sightings of **Freckled Nightjar** while eating our dinner under the stars.

# Day 4, 28th August 2019. Erongo birding

We birded around camp for the morning and were targeting Rockrunner and Hartlaub's Spurfowl in particular. Rockrunner was seen without too much difficulty; however, we didn't hear a peep of the spurfowl. We did have some other interesting sightings on our morning walk, though, including Short-toed Rock Thrush, Peregrine Falcon, Red-billed Spurfowl, Grey Go-away-bird, Pearl-spotted Owlet, Common Scimitarbill, Brubru, and White-browed Scrub Robin. We also had good views of a pair of Klipspringers.

After a late breakfast we took a short drive below the lodge to a dry riverbed, where we had fleeting glimpses of a small flock of **Violet Wood Hoopoes** as well as **Great Sparrow**, **Crimson-breasted Shrike**, and a pair of **African Hawk Eagles** overhead.

After some downtime in the heat of the day we took a late afternoon drive to another dry river bed in hope of finding **Rüppell's Parrot** and a few others. The parrot proved tricky, but eventually we had good views of a feeding bird. Other birds seen along the riverbed included **Violet Wood Hoopoe**, **Damara Red-billed Hornbill**, **Crimson-breasted Shrike**, **Black-faced** and **Violet-eared Waxbills**, **Marico Sunbird**, and **Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill**. We also had great views of **Pearl-spotted Owlet**, which we were pleased to see again as Cynthia had missed the bird earlier this morning. On the drive back we saw a lone **Steenbok**. After getting back to camp we had another go at **Hartlaub's Spurfowl**, but unfortunately we only heard the bird. However, we had amazing views of **Rockrunner**.

#### Day 5, 29th August 2019. Erongo to Etosha

This morning was 'operation Hartlaub's Spurfowl', and thankfully within 30 minutes we had great views of at least five birds giving their raucous calls from nearby boulders. Peter and Bob headed back to the riverbed to try to improve their shots of Rüppell's Parrot and Marico Sunbird; unfortunately neither of their targets showed this morning. However, they did find Damara Redbilled Hornbill, White-tailed Shrike, Bearded Woodpecker, African Hawk Eagle, Carp's Tit, Hartmann's Mountain Zebra, and the strikingly patterned Western Barred Spitting Cobra. Back around camp we found a pair of relaxed Great Sparrows, Mountain Wheatear, Lesser Masked Weaver, a cute Bushveld Elephant-shrew, many Dassie Rats (known locally as Noki and being neither a dassie or a rat!) and a pair of the range-restricted Kaokoland Slender Mongoose.





We saw a fairly relaxed pair of Kaokoland Slender Mongooses in the Erongo Mountains.

From Erongo we headed north to Etosha National Park. The drive was relatively uneventful apart from a **Brown Snake Eagle** and a small flock of **Alpine Swifts**. We entered the park in the early afternoon, and it didn't take long until we came across large numbers of game such as **Blackfaced Impala**, **Springbok**, **Greater Kudu**, **Gemsbok**, **Plains Zebra**, **Giraffe**, and a few families of **South African Ground Squirrels**. Despite the heat the birding was still good, and we found **Marico** and **Chat Flycatchers**, **Scaly-feathered Weaver**, **Tawny Eagle**, **Common Ostrich**, **Kori Bustard**, **Namaqua Sandgrouse**, and **Southern White-crowned Shrike**.

After checking into our accommodation at Okaukuejo Camp we departed for a late-afternoon drive into the open plains, which proved productive. Larks showed particularly well with sightings of Spike-heeled, Stark's, Sabota and Pink-billed. We also had great views of Double-banded Courser and a pair of Pale Chanting Goshawks. On our way back to camp we had lovely sightings of Cape Fox and Black-backed Jackal in the golden afternoon light.

# Day 6, 30th August 2019. Etosha birding

Today was our first full day in Etosha, and to take full advantage of the cooler morning we made sure we had a predawn breakfast. After breakfast we had a quick look at the camp's waterhole and saw a single **Spotted Hyaena** as well as a **Common** (Small Spotted) **Genet** nearby. We then went for a drive to the east of Okaukuejo and came across some great birds in the open desert plains and acacia bushveld. There were large numbers of larks about, including **Red-capped**, **Stark's**, **Spike-heeled** and **Sabota Larks**, as well as impressive flocks of **Grey-backed** and **Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Larks** around the various waterholes. We also managed good views of **Cape Penduline Tit**, **Yellow Canary**, **Rufous-eared Warbler**, **Greater Kestrel**, **Double-banded Courser**, **Kori Bustard**, **Red-crested** and **Southern Black Korhaans**, and a group of



three Burchell's Coursers. We also had some fantastic mammal sightings including two young Lions, both Black and White Rhinoceros, African Elephant, Giraffe, and a few smaller mammals such as Yellow Mongoose, South African Ground Squirrel, and a lone Honey Badger. Just before getting back to camp we had an interesting interaction with three Pale Chanting Goshawks hunting a Scrub Hare. The goshawks made a few attempts at catching the hare, but eventually the hare seemed to escape to safety.

We had lunch at the Okaukuejo waterhole, which was interrupted slightly by a very obliging **Pygmy Falcon**. Afterwards we did an afternoon drive, which was much quieter but did produce a number of **White-backed Vultures** feeding on a dead black rhino as well as our first **Double-banded Sandgrouse** and more **Red-crested** and **Southern Black Korhaans**, **Kori Bustard**, **Monteiro's Hornbill**, **Short-toed Rock Thrush**, and **Double-banded Courser**. We also found a small troop of **Banded Mongooses**.



Burchell's Courser was seen a number of times on this trip.

#### Day 7, 31st August 2019. Okaukuejo Camp to Mokuti Lodge

After another predawn breakfast we left Okaukuejo early and headed east through the park. This morning provided a number of great hunting interactions. First we watched a **Gabar Goshawk** chase a **Rufous-eared Warbler** in and out of a dense bush for about five minutes, with the goshawk ultimately winning this duel. Next we briefly watched a **Honey Badger** on the prowl, closely flanked by a pair of **Pale Chanting Goshawks** that were hanging around waiting for animals to flush from the marauding badger. We then had great views of a pair of **Red-necked Falcons**, with one of them briefly going after some small passerines before coming back to its tree. The falcons were then joined by a group of **Helmeted Guineafowls**, which sought refuge in the safety of the same tree (the only one for miles around), as a **Black-backed Jackal** was trying its luck down below.



We stopped at a nearby waterhole which provided a few Cape Teals, a drinking African Harrier-Hawk, Ruff, Little Stint, and Namaqua Sandgrouse before carrying on farther east to Halali Camp, where we had our lunch stop. Halali is always a haven for birdlife, and today was no different; we had good sightings of our first Southern Red-billed and African Grey Hornbills of the trip along with Bare-cheeked Babbler, Carp's Tit, Brown Snake Eagle, Little Swift, and White-crested Helmetshrike.

After lunch we continued to Mokuti Lodge, at the eastern edge of the park, where we were based for the next two nights. After checking in we birded the grounds of the lodge, which proved really productive. During an hour's birding we had racked up a bunch of new trip birds, including the likes of White-bellied Sunbird, Meyer's Parrot, Yellow-bellied Greenbul, Yellow-breasted Apalis, Bearded Woodpecker, and our target bird, Black-faced Babbler. The lodge grounds also had dozens of Congo Rope Squirrels and small groups of Banded Mongooses.



Black-faced Babbler showed well at Mokuti Lodge.

#### Day 8, 1st September 2019. Etosha and Mokuti birding

The morning was spent on the back of an open-top safari vehicle, birding the eastern section of Etosha. Although it was a fairly quiet morning (made even tougher with a strong, cold wind) we still managed good views of **Double-banded Sandgrouse**, **Southern Pied Babbler**, **Browncrowned Tchagra**, **Common House Martin**, **Bateleur**, **Tawny Eagle**, and a zebra carcass which had attracted a number of **Spotted Hyaenas**, **Black-backed Jackal**, and large numbers of **White-backed Vultures** with a single **Lappet-faced Vulture** also joining the mayhem.

After lunch at Mokuti we headed back into the park and made our way north of Namutoni Camp to the grasslands of the Andoni Plains. Here we found a good-sized flock of around 20 Blue Cranes as well as South African Shelduck and a single Lesser Flamingo at a waterhole. In the surrounding plains we had good numbers of Kori Bustards, Northern Black Korhaans, and Double-banded Coursers, as well as our first Tinkling Cisticola of the trip. The plains held



large numbers of herbivores including Blue Wildebeest, Red Hartebeest, Springbok, Common Warthog, Giraffe, and Gemsbok.

## Day 9, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019. East to the Caprivi Strip

Today was mostly a travel day as we had to cover a large distance from eastern Etosha to the western Caprivi Strip. We did, however, stop a few times for birding here and there. We saw a number of raptors during roadside stops along the way, including Martial Eagle, Bateleur, Black-chested Snake Eagle, White-backed and Lappet-faced Vultures, and last but certainly not least a pale-phase Ayres's Hawk-Eagle.

We stopped briefly in the tall woodlands west of Divundu to search for Souza's Shrike; unfortunately we did not have any luck with it. However, on our return to the vehicle Cynthia and Hanno had a treat waiting for us in form of a pair of **Racket-tailed Rollers** – bird of the day for most of the group; well spotted, Cynthia!



Racket-tailed Roller was seen well in the tall woodlands of the western Caprivi Strip.

Just south of Divundu we saw a few Rock Pratincoles on rocks in the Kavango River, and on arriving in camp later in the afternoon we were greeted by a flurry of new birds, including Southern Carmine, White-fronted, and Little Bee-eaters, Swamp Boubou, White-browed Coucal, Hartlaub's and Arrow-marked Babblers, Brown Firefinch, White-browed Robin-Chat, Golden-tailed Woodpecker, Lilac-breasted Roller, Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird, Mosque Swallow, Burchell's Starling, and Magpie Shrike. On a nighttime excursion we managed to see African Scops Owl but could not lay our eyes on African Wood Owl, African Barred Owlet, Fiery-necked and Square-tailed Nightjars, which were all calling nearby.



# Day 10, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019. Mahangu to Shakawe

Our early-morning birding in the Mahangu area proved to be some of the most productive birding of the entire trip. The riparian vegetation and adjacent floodplain were alive with birds, and we kept pulling ourselves away from one sighting to enjoy the next. Some of the top birds for the morning included Wattled Crane, Coppery-tailed Coucal, Mosque Swallow, Lilac-breasted Roller, Bradfield's Hornbill, Black-collared Barbet, Southern Yellow White-eye, Southern Black Flycatcher, Holub's Golden and Village Weavers, African Reed Warbler, Rattling Cisticola, and Terrestrial Brownbul. During breakfast we had fly-over views of Yellow-billed Stork, Great White Pelican, and Burchell's Sandgrouse. We were also able to scope a small herd of African Buffalos which was feeding on the opposite side of the riverbank.



**Coppery-tailed Coucal** was commonly encountered in papyrus swamps.

We then made our way south toward the Botswana border but first birded the impressive Mahango core area of the Bwabwata National Park. The floodplain again proved really productive as we added Goliath and Squacco Herons, Great Egret, White-faced Whistling Duck, African Spoonbill, African Openbill, and Glossy Ibis, as well as some great birds in the nearby woodlands such as Retz's Helmetshrike and Fawn-colored Lark.

The border crossing was quick and painless, and we were soon into Botswana, continuing south toward Shakawe, where we would be based at Drotsky's Cabins for the next two nights. As usual the gardens of the lodge were full of birds, and wandering around the gardens produced Holub's Golden Weaver, Hartlaub's and Arrow-marked Babblers, Golden-tailed and Bearded Woodpeckers, Mourning Collared Dove, White-browed Coucal, White-fronted, Little, and Southern Carmine Bee-eaters, Blue Waxbill, and Brown-hooded Kingfisher. In the swamps and channels below the lodge we spotted Hamerkop, Marabou Stork, Striated Heron, African Marsh Harrier, and Black Crake.



# Day 11, 4th September 2019. Okavango birding

Today we had a morning and afternoon boat trip along the Okavango River, which proved to be a real highlight of the tour. The morning trip started well with views of White-backed Night Heron hiding in some dense riverside vegetation. A little farther upstream we had fantastic views of a small colony of breeding African Skimmers with Sanderling and African Wattled Lapwing seen on exposed sandbanks nearby. In the dense reeds and papyrus lining the river we found Chirping Cisticola and Little Rush and Greater Swamp Warblers along with the occasional Coppery-tailed Coucal. In a quiet bay we found a single male African Pygmy Goose, which allowed for good photographic opportunities. Overhead we had views of Collared Pratincole, African Openbill, and Marabou and Yellow-billed Storks. There were good numbers of herons in the area too, including Squacco, Goliath, Grey, and Striated Herons. Other good birds seen on the morning boat trip included African Marsh Harrier, White-winged Tern, Malachite, Giant, and Pied Kingfishers, Bradfield's Hornbill, and Yellow-billed Oxpecker.

In the afternoon we concentrated our efforts on finding the elusive Pel's Fishing Owl; however, despite a lot of effort the bird would not show today. We enjoyed our final African sunset while sipping cold beers with more great photographic opportunities of **White-fronted**, **Little**, and **Southern Carmine Bee-eaters**. For some the highlight of the afternoon trip was brief looks at a **Spotted-necked Otter**, busy with its afternoon fishing activities.



Southern Carmine Bee-eater was one of a number of bee-eaters seen on this trip.

## Day 12, 5th September 2019. Departure from Maun

Lunch time flights out of Maun meant a predawn departure from Shakawe. However, we did manage one last new bird for the trip as we were busy loading the vehicle, an **African Barred Owlet**. The trip back to Maun was uneventful and ended a successful twelve days in Namibia and Botswana.



## **Bird List - Following IOC (9.2)**

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. Southern African endemics are bolded.

Common name	Scientific name	
Ostriches (Struthionidae)		
Common Ostrich	Struthio camelus	
<b>Ducks, Geese and Swans (Anati</b>	idae)	
White-faced Whistling Duck	Dendrocygna viduata	
Spur-winged Goose	Plectropterus gambensis	
Egyptian Goose	Alopochen aegyptiaca	
South African Shelduck	Tadorna cana	
African Pygmy Goose	Nettapus auritus	
Cape Shoveler	Spatula smithii	
Cape Teal	Anas capensis	
Guineafowl (Numididae)		
Helmeted Guineafowl	Numida meleagris	
Pheasants and allies (Phasianid	ae)	
Hartlaub's Spurfowl	Pternistis hartlaubi	
Red-billed Spurfowl	Pternistis adspersus	
Austral Storm Petrels (Oceanitidae)		
Wilson's Storm Petrel	Oceanites oceanicus	
Petrels, Shearwaters & Diving	Petrels (Procellariidae)	
Sooty Shearwater - NT	Ardenna grisea	
Grebes (Podicipedidae)		
Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis	
Flamingos (Phoenicopteridae)		
Greater Flamingo	Phoenicopterus roseus	
Lesser Flamingo - NT	Phoeniconaias minor	



Common name	Scientific name
Storks (Ciconiidae)	
Yellow-billed Stork	Mycteria ibis
African Openbill	Anastomus lamelligerus
Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumenifer
Ibises, Spoonbills (Threskiorn	nithidae)
African Sacred Ibis	Threskiornis aethiopicus
Hadada Ibis	Bostrychia hagedash
Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus
African Spoonbill	Platalea alba
Herons, Bitterns (Ardeidae)	
White-backed Night Heron	Gorsachius leuconotus
Striated Heron	Butorides striata
Squacco Heron	Ardeola ralloides
Western Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis
Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea
Black-headed Heron	Ardea melanocephala
Goliath Heron	Ardea goliath
Great Egret	Ardea alba
Little Egret	Egretta garzetta
Hamerkop (Scopidae)	
Hamerkop	Scopus umbretta
Pelicans (Pelecanidae)	
Great White Pelican	Pelecanus onocrotalus
Great White Felican	1 elections onocrotatus
Gannets, Boobies (Sulidae)	
Cape Gannet - EN	Morus capensis
<b>Cormorants, Shags (Phalacro</b>	
Reed Cormorant	Microcarbo africanus
Crowned Cormorant - NT	Microcarbo coronatus
Bank Cormorant - EN	Phalacrocorax neglectus
White-breasted Cormorant	Phalacrocorax lucidus
Cape Cormorant - EN	Phalacrocorax capensis



Common name	Scientific name
Anhingas, Darters (Anhingida	ae)
African Darter	Anhinga rufa
Kites, Hawks and Eagles (Acc	cipitridae)
Black-winged Kite	Elanus caeruleus
African Harrier-Hawk	Polyboroides typus
White-backed Vulture - CR	Gyps africanus
Lappet-faced Vulture - EN	Torgos tracheliotos
Black-chested Snake Eagle	Circaetus pectoralis
Brown Snake Eagle	Circaetus cinereus
Bateleur - NT	Terathopius ecaudatus
Martial Eagle - VU	Polemaetus bellicosus
Ayres's Hawk-Eagle	Hieraaetus ayresii
Tawny Eagle - VU	Aquila rapax
African Hawk-Eagle	Aquila spilogaster
Gabar Goshawk	Micronisus gabar
Pale Chanting Goshawk	Melierax canorus
Little Sparrowhawk	Accipiter minullus
African Marsh Harrier	Circus ranivorus
Yellow-billed Kite	Milvus aegyptius
African Fish Eagle	Haliaeetus vocifer
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Bustards (Otididae)	
Kori Bustard - NT	Ardeotis kori
Rüppell's Korhaan	Eupodotis rueppelii
Red-crested Korhaan	Lophotis ruficrista
Northern Black Korhaan	Afrotis afraoides
Rails, Crakes and Coots (Rall	idae)
Black Crake	Amaurornis flavirostra
Common Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus
Cranes (Gruidae)	
Wattled Crane - VU	Grus carunculata
Blue Crane - VU	Grus paradisea
Stone-curlews, Thick-knees (I	Burhinidae)
Water Thick-knee	Burhinus vermiculatus



Common name	Scientific name
Oystercatchers (Haematopodic	lae)
African Oystercatcher	Haematopus moquini
Stilts, Avocets (Recurvirostrida	ae)
Black-winged Stilt	Himantopus himantopus
Pied Avocet	Recurvirostra avosetta
Plovers (Charadriidae)	
Long-toed Lapwing	Vanellus crassirostris
Blacksmith Lapwing	Vanellus armatus
Crowned Lapwing	Vanellus coronatus
African Wattled Lapwing	Vanellus senegallus
Kittlitz's Plover	Charadrius pecuarius
Three-banded Plover	Charadrius tricollaris
White-fronted Plover	Charadrius marginatus
Chestnut-banded Plover - NT	Charadrius pallidus
Jacanas (Jacanidae)	
African Jacana	Actophilornis africanus
Sandpipers, Snipes (Scolopacid	lae)
Whimbrel	Numenius phaeopus
Bar-tailed Godwit - NT	Limosa lapponica
Ruddy Turnstone	Arenaria interpres
Ruff	Calidris pugnax
Curlew Sandpiper - NT	Calidris ferruginea
Sanderling	Calidris alba
Little Stint	Calidris minuta
Red-necked Phalarope	Phalaropus lobatus
Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos
Wood Sandpiper	Tringa glareola
Common Greenshank	Tringa nebularia
Coursers, Pratincoles (Glareoli	idae)
Burchell's Courser	Cursorius rufus
Double-banded Courser	Rhinoptilus africanus
Collared Pratincole	Glareola pratincola
Rock Pratincole	Glareola nuchalis



Common name	Scientific name
Gulls, Terns and Skimmers (La	aridae)
African Skimmer - NT	Rynchops flavirostris
Grey-headed Gull	Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus
Hartlaub's Gull	Chroicocephalus hartlaubii
Kelp Gull	Larus dominicanus
Caspian Tern	Hydroprogne caspia
Greater Crested Tern	Thalasseus bergii
Sandwich Tern	Thalasseus sandvicensis
Common Tern	Sterna hirundo
Arctic Tern	Sterna paradisaea
White-winged Tern	Chlidonias leucopterus
Sandgrouse (Pteroclidae)	
Namaqua Sandgrouse	Pterocles namaqua
Double-banded Sandgrouse	Pterocles bicinctus
Burchell's Sandgrouse	Pterocles burchelli
Pigeons, Doves (Columbidae)	
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
Turacos (Musophagidae)	
Grey Go-away-bird	Corythaixoides concolor
Cuckoos (Cuculidae)	
Coppery-tailed Coucal	Centropus cupreicaudus
White-browed Coucal	Centropus superciliosus
Owls (Strigidae)	
African Scops Owl	Otus senegalensis
African Wood Owl (H)	Strix woodfordii
Pearl-spotted Owlet	Glaucidium perlatum



Common name	Scientific name
African Barred Owlet	Glaucidium capense
Nightjars (Caprimulgidae)	
Fiery-necked Nightjar (H)	Caprimulgus pectoralis
Freckled Nightjar	Caprimulgus tristigma
Square-tailed Nightjar (H)	Caprimulgus fossii
Swifts (Apodidae)	
African Palm Swift	Cypsiurus parvus
Alpine Swift	Tachymarptis melba
Little Swift	Apus affinis
Mousebirds (Coliidae)	
White-backed Mousebird	Colius colius
Red-faced Mousebird	Urocolius indicus
Rollers (Coraciidae)	
Racket-tailed Roller	Coracias spatulatus
Lilac-breasted Roller	Coracias caudatus
Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)	
Brown-hooded Kingfisher	Halcyon albiventris
Malachite Kingfisher	Corythornis cristatus
Giant Kingfisher	Megaceryle maxima
Pied Kingfisher	Ceryle rudis
3	
Bee-eaters (Meropidae)	
Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	Merops hirundineus
Little Bee-eater	Merops pusillus
White-fronted Bee-eater	Merops bullockoides
Southern Carmine Bee-eater	Merops nubicoides
Hoopoes (Upupidae)	
African Hoopoe	Upupa africana
Wood Hoopoes (Phoeniculidae	2)
Green Wood Hoopoe	Phoeniculus purpureus
Violet Wood Hoopoe	Phoeniculus damarensis
Common Scimitarbill	Rhinopomastus cyanomelas



Common name	Scientific name
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
African Barbets (Lybiidae)	
Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	Pogoniulus chrysoconus
Acacia Pied Barbet	Tricholaema leucomelas
Black-collared Barbet	Lybius torquatus
Crested Barbet	Trachyphonus vaillantii
Woodpeckers (Picidae)	
Golden-tailed Woodpecker	Campethera abingoni
Bearded Woodpecker	Chloropicus namaquus
Cardinal Woodpecker	Dendropicos fuscescens
Caracaras, Falcons (Falconidae)	)
Pygmy Falcon	Polihierax semitorquatus
Rock Kestrel	Falco rupicolus
Greater Kestrel	Falco rupicoloides
Red-necked Falcon	Falco chicquera
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus
African & New World Parrots (	Psittacidae)
Meyer's Parrot	Poicephalus meyeri
Rüppell's Parrot	Poicephalus rueppellii
Old World Parrots (Psittaculida	ne)
Rosy-faced Lovebird	Agapornis roseicollis
	10
Wattle-eyes, Batises (Platysteiric	dae)
Chinspot Batis	Batis molitor
Pririt Batis	Batis pririt
White-tailed Shrike	Lanioturdus torquatus





Common name	Scientific name
Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark	Eremopterix verticalis
Sabota Lark	Calendulauda sabota
Fawn-colored Lark	Calendulauda africanoides
Dune Lark	Calendulauda erythrochlamys
Stark's Lark	Spizocorys starki
Pink-billed Lark	Spizocorys conirostris
Red-capped Lark	Calandrella cinerea
Bulbuls (Pycnonotidae)	
African Red-eyed Bulbul	Pycnonotus nigricans
Dark-capped Bulbul	Pycnonotus tricolor
Yellow-bellied Greenbul	Chlorocichla flaviventris
Terrestrial Brownbul	Phyllastrephus terrestris
Swallows, Martins (Hirundinida	ae)
Brown-throated Martin	Riparia paludicola
Banded Martin	Riparia cincta
Wire-tailed Swallow	Hirundo smithii
Rock Martin	Ptyonoprogne fuligula
Common House Martin	Delichon urbicum
Lesser Striped Swallow	Cecropis abyssinica
Red-breasted Swallow	Cecropis semirufa
Mosque Swallow	Cecropis senegalensis
South African Cliff Swallow	Petrochelidon spilodera
Crombecs, African Warblers (N	1
Rockrunner	Achaetops pycnopygius
Long-billed Crombec	Sylvietta rufescens
Reed Warblers and allies (Acro	aanhalidaa)
Greater Swamp Warbler	
*	Acrocephalus rufescens
African Reed Warbler	Acrocephalus baeticatus
Grassbirds and allies (Locustell	idae)
Little Rush Warbler	Bradypterus baboecala
	1
Cisticolas and allies (Cisticolida	e)
Rattling Cisticola	Cisticola chiniana
Tinkling Cisticola	Cisticola rufilatus



Common name	Scientific name
Chirping Cisticola	Cisticola pipiens
Neddicky	Cisticola fulvicapilla
Tawny-flanked Prinia	Prinia subflava
Black-chested Prinia	Prinia flavicans
Yellow-breasted Apalis	Apalis flavida
Rufous-eared Warbler	Malcorus pectoralis
Grey-backed Camaroptera	Camaroptera brevicaudata
Yellow-bellied Eremomela	Eremomela icteropygialis
Burnt-necked Eremomela	Eremomela usticollis
T 11 11 1 1 1 1 7	
Laughingthrushes & allies (L	
Black-faced Babbler	Turdoides melanops
Arrow-marked Babbler	Turdoides jardineii
Hartlaub's Babbler	Turdoides hartlaubii
Southern Pied Babbler	Turdoides bicolor
Bare-cheeked Babbler	Turdoides gymnogenys
Sylviid Babblers (Sylviidae)	
Chestnut-vented Warbler	Sylvia subcoerulea
Layard's Warbler	Sylvia layardi
White-eyes (Zosteropidae)	
Orange River White-eye	Zosterops pallidus
African Yellow White-eye	Zosterops senegalensis
Starlings Dhahdamis (Sturmi	
Starlings, Rhabdornis (Sturni	
Wattled Starling	Creatophora cinerea
Cape Starling	Lamprotornis nitens
Greater Blue-eared Starling	Lamprotornis chalybaeus
Meves's Starling	Lamprotornis mevesii
Burchell's Starling	Lamprotornis australis
Violet-backed Starling	Cinnyricinclus leucogaster
Pale-winged Starling	Onychognathus nabouroup
Oxpeckers (Buphagidae)	
Yellow-billed Oxpecker	Buphagus africanus
Red-billed Oxpecker	Buphagus erythrorynchus
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Thrushes (Turdidae)	



Common name	Scientific name
Groundscraper Thrush	Turdus litsitsirupa
Kurrichane Thrush	Turdus libonyana
Chats, Old World Flycatchers (	Muscicapidae)
Kalahari Scrub Robin	Cercotrichas paena
White-browed Scrub Robin	Cercotrichas leucophrys
Southern Black Flycatcher	Melaenornis pammelaina
Pale Flycatcher	Melaenornis pallidus
Chat Flycatcher	Melaenornis infuscatus
Marico Flycatcher	Melaenornis mariquensis
Ashy Flycatcher	Muscicapa caerulescens
White-browed Robin-Chat	Cossypha heuglini
Short-toed Rock Thrush	Monticola brevipes
African Stonechat	Saxicola torquatus
Tractrac Chat	Emarginata tractrac
Ant-eating Chat	Myrmecocichla formicivora
Mountain Wheatear	Myrmecocichla monticola
Familiar Chat	Oenanthe familiaris
Herero Chat	Namibornis herero
Sunbirds (Nectariniidae)	
Collared Sunbird	Hedydipna collaris
Marico Sunbird	Cinnyris mariquensis
White-bellied Sunbird	Cinnyris talatala
Dusky Sunbird	Cinnyris fuscus
Old World Sparrows, Snowfinc	hes (Passeridae)
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus
Great Sparrow	Passer motitensis
Cape Sparrow	Passer melanurus
Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	Passer diffusus
Weavers, Widowbirds (Ploceida	ne)
White-browed Sparrow-Weaver	Plocepasser mahali
Sociable Weaver	Philetairus socius
Scaly-feathered Weaver	Sporopipes squamifrons
Thick-billed Weaver	Amblyospiza albifrons
Spectacled Weaver	Ploceus ocularis
Holub's Golden Weaver	Ploceus xanthops



Common name	Scientific name
Southern Brown-throated	
Weaver	Ploceus xanthopterus
Lesser Masked Weaver	Ploceus intermedius
Southern Masked Weaver	Ploceus velatus
Village Weaver	Ploceus cucullatus
Red-headed Weaver	Anaplectes rubriceps
Red-billed Quelea	Quelea quelea
Waxbills, Munias and allies (	Estrildidae)
Green-winged Pytilia	Pytilia melba
Red-headed Finch	Amadina erythrocephala
Brown Firefinch	Lagonosticta nitidula
Red-billed Firefinch	Lagonosticta senegala
Jameson's Firefinch	Lagonosticta rhodopareia
Blue Waxbill	Uraeginthus angolensis
Violet-eared Waxbill	Uraeginthus granatinus
Common Waxbill	Estrilda astrild
Black-faced Waxbill	Estrilda erythronotos
Wagtails, Pipits (Motacillidae	e)
Cape Wagtail	Motacilla capensis
African Pied Wagtail	Motacilla aguimp
African Pipit	Anthus cinnamomeus
Finches, Euphonias (Fringilli	dae)
Black-throated Canary	Crithagra atrogularis
Yellow-fronted Canary	Crithagra mozambica
Yellow Canary	Crithagra flaviventris
White-throated Canary	Crithagra albogularis
<b>Buntings (Emberizidae)</b>	
Lark-like Bunting	Emberiza impetuani
Cape Bunting	Emberiza capensis

Total seen	296
Total heard only	4
Total recorded	300



# **Mammal List**

Common name	Scientific name	
Dogs, Wolves, Foxes (Canidae)		
Black-backed Jackal	Canis mesomelas	
Cape Fox	Vulpes chama	
Super on	Turpes eneme	
Mustelids (Mustelidae)		
Honey Badger	Mellivora capensis	
Spotted-necked Otter	Hydrictis maculicollis	
Cats (Felidae)		
Lion	Panthera leo	
Mongooses (Herpestidae)		
Banded Mongoose	Mungos mungo	
Yellow Mongoose	Cynictis penicillata	
Slender Mongoose	Herpestes sanguineus	
Kaokoland Slender Mongoose	Herpestes flavescens	
Hyaenas, Aardwolf (Hyaenidae)		
Spotted Hyaena	Crocuta crocuta	
Eared Seals (Otariidae)		
Cape Fur Seal	Arctocephalus pusillus pusillus	
Genets, Binturong, Civets (Viverridae)		
Common Genet	Genetta genetta	
Bovids (Bovidae)		
Black-faced Impala	Aepyceros melampus petersi	
Red Hartebeest	Alcelaphus buselaphus caama	
Tsessebe	Damaliscus lunatus lunatus	
Springbok	Antidorcas marsupialis	
Blue Wildebeest	Connochaetes taurinus taurinus	
Roan Antelope	Hippotragus equinus	
Waterbuck	Kobus ellipsiprymnus	
Gemsbok	Oryx gazella	
Red Lechwe	Kobus leche leche	





Common name	Scientific name	
Elephants (Elephantidae)		
African Elephant	Loxodonta africana	
True Mice (Muridae)		
Four-striped Grass Mouse	Rhabdomys pumilio	
Black-tailed Tree Rat	Thallomys nigricauda	
Dassie Rat (Petromuridae)		
Dassie Rat	Petromus typicus	
Squirrels, Chipmunks, Marmots, Prairie Dogs (Sciuridae)		
Congo Rope Squirrel	Funisciurus congicus	
Damara Ground Squirrel	Xerus princeps	
South African Ground Squirrel	Xerus inauris	

Total seen 48
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# **Reptile List**

Common Name	Scientific Name	
Colubrine Snakes (Colubridae)		
Western Barred Spitting Cobra	Naja nigricincta	
Monitors (Varanidae)		
Nile Monitor	Varanus niloticus	
Agamas (Agamidae)		
Namib Rock Agama	Agama planiceps	
True Crocodiles (Crocodylidae)		
Nile Crocodile	Crocodylus niloticus	
	1	
Total seen	4	

