



NAMIBIA, BOTSWANA & ZAMBIA REPORT

14th – 29th OCTOBER 2015

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Either for rarity value, excellent views or simply a group favourite.

- Orange River Francolin
- Natal Spurfowl
- Slaty Egret
- Rufous-bellied Heron
- White-backed Night-Heron
- Secretarybird
- African Goshawk
- Red-crested Korhaan
- African Rail
- African Finfoot
- Blue Crane
- Wattled Crane
- White-crowned Lapwing
- Caspian Plover
- Lesser Jacana
- Burchell's Courser
- Double-banded Courser
- African Skimmer
- Burchell's Sandgrouse
- Schalow's Turaco
- Coppery-tailed Coucal
- Pel's Fishing Owl
- African Barred Owlet
- Fiery-necked Nightjar
- Rufous-cheeked Nightjar
- Brown-hooded Kingfisher
- Southern Carmine Bee-eater
- Racket-tailed Roller
- Violet Woodhoopoe
- Trumpeter Hornbill
- Monteiro's Hornbill
- Crested Barbet
- Black-collared Barbet
- Bennett's Woodpecker
- Olive Woodpecker
- Meyer's Parrot
- Ruppell's Parrot
- Swamp Boubou
- Magpie Shrike
- Eastern Nicator
- Cape Penduline-Tit
- Rockrunner
- Rufous-eared Warbler
- Green-capped Eremomela
- Collared Palm-Thrush
- Kurrichane Thrush
- Purple-banded Sunbird
- Violet-eared Waxbill
- Brown Firefinch
- 50 species of mammal

SUMMARY:

Our Namibia, Botswana & Zambia tour provided a kaleidoscope of wonderful sightings and on reflection this really was the perfect African safari experience. We had come for the birds, of course, but the 50 species of mammal included all of those iconic animals you would expect. But apart from some amazing encounters with Lions, Leopard, Black Rhino, Hippos & Sable, it was the sheer numbers that were quite literally mind-blowing. The moment we drove down to the riverplain at Chobe NP and counted 1000+ African Elephants in front of us was positively spine-tingling. However, no trip to this part of the world would be complete without an encounter with Pel's Fishing Owl and our views of two birds in a large tree were superb. It doesn't get much better than watching a nesting colony of Southern Carmine Bee-eaters just a few metres away from your boat along the Okavango River, a Schalow's Turaco literally glowing in the evening sunlight or a Fiery-necked Nightjar hovering in front of your face. From Etosha, through the Caprivi Strip, Okavango Panhandle and ending up at Victoria Falls this truly was the trip of a lifetime.

Day 1 - Wednesday 14th October Daan Viljoen Reserve, Namibia

Following an overnight flight the group met up with Nick Bray and Charles Rhyn at Windhoek Airport and within a short while had seen a few **South African Cliff Swallows** and a pair of the scarce **Orange River Francolins** before reaching Windhoek. Not a bad start to what promises to be an exciting African adventure.

By early afternoon we had arrived at our destination of Daan Viljoen Reserve near Windhoek and as it was almost 2 o'clock we dived straight into the restaurant for a late lunch. Afterwards we had a little time to rest in our very nice bungalows before meeting at 4.30pm for an afternoon walk along the road. The strong wind hampered our birding and the surrounding area was a little quieter than we would have liked, but we still managed to see a number of really nice birds. A favourite of mine is **Golden-breasted Bunting** and we had some rather brief views of a pair feeding on a slope above us, in company with another star bird – **Violet-eared Waxbill**. We also had nice scope views of **Mountain Wheatear**, **Short-toed Rock Thrush** and **Red-billed Spurfowl** before continuing our walk along the road.



Orange River Francolin

We picked up quite a lot of commoner species such as both **Common** and **Black-faced Waxbills**, **Marico Flycatcher**, **Familiar Chat**, a distant soaring **Martial Eagle**, **Rock Kestrel**, **Namaqua Dove**, **Pearl-spotted Owlet**, **Alpine Swift**, **Greater Striped Swallow**, **Groundscraper Thrush**, **Scarlet-chested Sunbird**, **African Hoopoe**, with several nice close views of **Swallow-tailed Bee-eater**. So not a bad haul, although a pair of **Pririt Batis**, **Burnt-necked Eremomela**, **Long-billed Crombec**, **Cape Bunting** and **Rufous-vented Tit-warbler** were also rather cool, whilst a **Crimson-breasted Shrike** posed briefly as well.

It was also really good to kick-start our mammal list with **Chacma Baboon**, **Hartmann's Mountain Zebra**, **Giraffe**, **Gemsbok** (Southern Oryx), and **Eland**. Safe to say we were all rather tired tonight after a long journey to get here from the UK and after an excellent dinner headed straight to our nice rooms for some well earned rest.

Day 2 Thursday 15th October Daan Viljoen – Waterberg Plateau Park

At 6.30am we met up beside the minibus and walked a short distance along the road and I'm pleased to report that we had excellent scope views of a **Rockrunner** perched on a huge boulder on the slope above us. We watched it singing for quite some time before heading back and after a predominantly quiet session then found a pair of **Green-winged Pytilias**, another **Pearl-spotted Owlet**, **Golden-breasted** and **Cape Buntings**, **Violet-eared Waxbill**, and a pair of non-breeding **Long-tailed Paradise-Whydahs**. Upon reaching the minibus that was parked right beside our rooms, a **Carp's Black Tit** appeared and proceeded to give very nice views, and at the same spot a **Brubru** appeared as well. As we walked to breakfast a **Gabar Goshawk** swooped into an acacia and took what was probably a **Red-billed Quelea**.

Following a very nice breakfast we headed out of the park, stopping to see a group of **Giraffes** feeding beside the road before setting out on the long drive to the Waterberg Plateau. Along the way we made several stops to look at **White-backed** and **Lappet-faced Vultures**, **Damara** and **Monteiro's Hornbills** and **Brown Snake-Eagle**, before taking a picnic lunch in the shade of a big Acacia tree. A pair of **Kalahari Scrub-Robins** performed well nearby and there was also our first **Marico Sunbird** here, plus another **Brubru** flew in. Continuing on through the heat of the day we

paused to look at **Pale Chanting Goshawks** and a pair of **Cape Vultures** flying over, and as we approached the base of the Waterberg Plateau several **Pale-winged** and **Burchell's Starlings** were seen. As we waited for Charly to check us in at reception, an **African Hoopoe** gave point-blank views on the lawn in front of us before we drove up to our bungalows and enjoyed a nice hour's rest. Afterwards we checked out the surrounding area below the cliffs where a pair of **Verreaux's Eagles** were constantly on view. It took some time but eventually we located a group of 4 **Violet Wood-Hoopoes** that flew around us several times, perching briefly and calling loudly back at us. A pair of **White-browed Scrub-Robins** were also found in the bushes nearby.

Day 3 Friday 16th October Waterberg Plateau – Otjiwarongo Pools - Etosha

An early morning walk failed to produce any francolins, but thankfully a pair of **Ruppell's Parrots** decided to appear in a large acacia tree right in front of our cabins as we were loading our luggage into the trailer. There hadn't been a sniff of them anywhere this morning and we'd all but given up, but here they were. Phew! There were also a few other birds in the area such as **Verreaux's Eagle**, **White-rumped Swift**, **Carp's Black Tit**, **White-browed Scrub-Robin**, but more importantly there was **African Hawk-Eagle**, **Bradfield's Swift** and **White-bellied Sunbird** - new birds for our list. A group of **Dwarf Mongoose** were found near the restaurant, and we were joined by a few **Banded Mongoose** and a **Chacma Baboon** at our breakfast table. Driving back to the main road we saw a pair of **Monteiro's Hornbills**, **Black-chested Prinia** and a cute little **Steenbok**. From here it was around 90 kms to Otjiwarongo sewage pools and along the way we saw a **Rattling Cisticola**.

The pools held a few trip ticks such as **African Swamphen**, **Black Crake**, **Cape Teal**, **Red-billed Duck**, **Squacco Heron**, **Three-banded Plover**, **Little Stint** and **Ruff**. Our lunch stop was at a small lodge near Outjo and the gardens held a bunch of birds with **Yellow-bellied Eremomela** being new. But we also saw **Chestnut-vented Tit-Babbler**, **Pririt Batis** and **Crimson-breasted Shrike** amongst others. Then it was another 100kms drive to the Anderson Gate entrance to Etosha National Park where **Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill** and a **Great Rufous**



Common Ostriches © Tom Bray

Sparrow greeted our arrival. Once the entrance formalities were over we drove inside the park and quickly checked the first waterhole but there was only a few **Common Ostriches** present so we proceeded to Okaukuejo and checked-in. An **African Cuckoo**, **Southern White-crowned Shrike** and an **Icterine Warbler** were found near the swimming pool before we had even reached our rooms. After a rest we met just before dusk at the waterhole and waited for some **Double-banded Sandgrouse** to arrive. The early arrivals saw **African Elephants** and **Giraffes**, whilst 7 **Kori Bustards** were pretty spectacular. As dusk settled lots of sandgrouse

came down to drink and just as it got dark a pair of **Spotted Thick-Knees** and a **Rufous-cheeked Nightjar** showed. After dinner at least 3 **Black Rhinos** and a **Freckled Nightjar** were also present at the floodlit waterhole.

Day 4 Saturday 17th October Okaukuejo, Etosha

Our first game drive into Etosha wasn't as straight forward as it should have been as one of our two jeeps broke down about two miles from Okaukuejo. So Charly had to return to camp and bring the minibus to us, and some of the group jumped into that vehicle whilst the others remained in the serviceable jeep. There were a few **Double-banded Coursers** showing nicely beside the road, along with **Capped Wheatear**, **Spike-heeled** and **Pink-billed Larks**. This barren landscape held a surprisingly high number of birds, as we also saw **Grey-backed Sparrow-Larks**, some **Northern Black Korhaans**, a few **Namaqua Sandgrouse** and a **Common Fiscal**. Well the minibus duly arrived a short while later and after everybody had caught up with most of the available birds we returned for breakfast.

Afterwards we set out on another jeep safari, this time with both jeeps in full working order and headed out to view some waterholes. They were attracting numerous **Springbok** and **Black-faced Impalas**, with **Southern Oryx** and **Kudu** also present. We criss-crossed along a network of trail systems and found **Sabota Lark**, lots of **Red-capped Larks**, a soaring **White-headed Vulture**, and even some **Kittlitz's Plovers** that were sheltering in the shade of a few rocks. A quick stop at a rest area for a toilet break resulted in a flock of **Red-headed Finches** and a pair of **Violet-eared Waxbills**, and the drive back produced a **Spotted Eagle-Owl** sat on its nest next to the track. And that was our morning.



Northern Black Korhaan

The afternoon safari commenced at 3pm and we headed out into the wilderness to checkout a few more waterholes. The first one had 5 huge **African Elephants** that had been spraying themselves with the muddy water, which had dried and they were now what appeared to be the 'Ghost Elephants of Etosha' and a dull white colour. There were plenty of **Springbok**, **Burchell's Zebra**, **Oryx** and **Common Ostriches** here, and as we were leaving a **Kori Bustard** was seen close to the track. Moving on it was pleasing to notch up **Chat Flycatcher** and **Great Kestrel** in quick succession before we moved on to some more waterholes. The last one had a huge male **Lion** sitting under a tree and we watched him walk out into the open and sit down to survey his domain. Truly a stunning beast. Driving back at dusk, there were so many **Northern Black Korhaans** out in the open, and we reached Okaukuejo just before the gates closed.

Day 5 Sunday 18th October Okaukuejo – Halali - Mokuti

We had an early breakfast before packing the luggage into the trailer and checking out the Okaukuejo waterhole one last time where a pair of **Tawny Eagles** were new for the trip. This was a great day in Etosha beginning with a **Red-crested Korhaan** crossing the road in front of us as we drove to the entrance gate to pick up our safari vehicle, where another **Secretarybird** was seen. This converted truck offers all-round viewing from an elevated position for the whole group and is perfect for a safari – and off we set. In all today we had five different encounters with **Lions** today, including a cracking young male right beside us. On the opposite side of the road a non-breeding plumaged **Caspian Plover** was a really good bird to see and we spent quite

some time watching it. Further on, we called in a stunning **Rufous-eared Warbler** before coming across three **Spotted Hyenas** that were hiding in a culvert under the track. They had obviously just been feeding on something as they had blood around their muzzles and kept trying to return to their hiding place, coming very close to our vehicle. Then a **Black Rhino** was seen, followed by **Rufous-chested Swallow**, a group of **White-crested Helmet-Shrikes** and a pride of **Lions** at a waterhole.

We kept criss-crossing the flat, stark Etosha landscape and found several pairs of **Burchell's Coursers** including some recently fledged young before reaching yet another waterhole. This one was crowded with a variety of animals including a group of **African Elephants**, **Blue Wildebeast**, **Burchell's Zebra**, **Black-faced Impala** and **Springbok**. The interesting thing about this spot was a **Lioness** was hunkered down behind a fallen tree waiting in ambush but she never had any prey close enough to pounce on. Meanwhile two young male **Lions** were sleeping in the shade of some bushes a little further away! A **Lanner** was also present here along with an **African Jacana**. As we headed to Halali in a gale and sandstorm a pair of **Bat-eared Foxes** were seen running alongside the road – a really good quality mammal.



Bare-cheeked Babbler

At Halali we had lunch, saw a day roosting **African Scops Owl** and best of all a few **Bare-cheeked Babblers**. Moving on, there was **Purple Roller**, **Bateleur**, and another **Lioness** with a small cub.

The undoubted highlight was a family of 3 **Cheetahs** walking across a vast, open plain and this sighting came totally out of the blue – a great 18th birthday present for Tom. We ended the day at the luxurious Mokuti Lodge, situated just outside of Etosha.



A great sighting at Etosha - a family of Cheetahs

Day 6 Monday 19th October Etosha National Park

Another morning's game drive into Etosha began with a **Yellow-bellied Greenbul** and a brief **Southern Black Tit**, and most of the group saw the resident speciality of **Black-faced Babbler** in the lodge gardens as well. Inside the park a **Steppe Buzzard** was perched nearby before we reached the first waterhole. This produced a fascinating encounter between 3 **Lions** feeding on a carcass, who were surrounded by 5 **Spotted Hyenas** and a bunch of **Black-backed Jackals**. The Jackals kept rushing in to steal some bones and meat whilst the hyenas just circled nearby and then one chased down a jackal and stole a leg of flesh from it! This went on for quite some time and whilst waiting we also saw **Black-throated** and **Yellow Canary**.

Moving on, we visited another waterhole with some **Golden-breasted Buntings** drinking, and the next waterhole had lots of birds feeding in the bushes next to us. Pride of place were quite a lot of **Violet-eared Waxbills**, with several stunning males present. There was also an obliging **Green-winged Pytilia** and a few **Scaly-feathered Finches**. At Namutoni Fort, Charly located a stunning **Red-necked Falcon** perched in a Palm tree, and we also saw **Long-billed Crombec**, **Pearl-spotted Owlet**, **Red-chested Swallow** and at least two **Icterine Warblers**.



Just one of the Blue Cranes present at this waterhole today.

I think the 3 hours rest we had back at the lodge was very much appreciated by everyone before setting out on safari and headed 42kms north of Namutoni Fort to an area where some **Blue Cranes** had been seen yesterday. It was a long straight road to the area but along the way we called into a waterhole where a family of **African Elephants** were drinking. We didn't stop long and continued along a never-ending road until dropping down to a huge, wide-open grassy plain. At the far end was another waterhole and here we found the treasure at the end of the rainbow in the form of 21 beautiful **Blue Cranes**. What a great, elegant bird this is and we lapped up the views through bins and scopes, whilst photos were being taken by the dozens. The pool was also home to lots of **Little Stints** and **Kittlitz's Plovers**, plus a single **Common Ringed Plover** and **Banded Martin**. After a few unsuccessful attempts at finding any new larks we headed back, finding a pair of **Burchell's Sandgrouse** along the way and a **Fawn-coloured Lark**.

Day 7 Tuesday 20th October Mokuti – Rundu Sewage Pools – Nkwazi Lodge

A quick check of the gardens before breakfast proved to be a little quiet, although we did see **Crested Francolin**, **Southern Red-billed Hornbill**, **Southern Black Tit**, **Yellow-breasted Apalis** and **Common Duiker**. We left here shortly after breakfast and headed towards Rundu with a **Dark chanting Goshawk** a good find during the first section of the drive. We were heading eastwards and making good time on the long, straight tarmac road but making a few stops proved fruitful with a **Pied Cuckoo** drinking at a roadside puddle, a group of **Southern Pied Babblers** and a pair of **Temminck's Coursers** in a large field.

Lunch was taken in the shade of a large leafy Acacia where we were joined by a flock of **White-crested Helmetshrikes** and an **African Paradise Flycatcher**. Continuing on, the scenery began to change to a more open habitat and we had our first **Bradfield's Hornbill**, followed by a pair of **Spotted Flycatchers** and a pair of **African Harrier Hawks**. We checked out a nice woodland for **Rufous-bellied Tit** but it was 39 degrees celcius and there was barely a bird to be seen until we returned towards the van and found **Pale Flycatcher** and our first **Yellow-fronted Canary**.



Fiery-necked Nightjar

We eventually arrived at Rundu Sewage Pools around 5pm where **Hottentot Teal**, **African Greater Painted Snipe**, **White-throated Swallow**, **Senegal Coucal**, **Red-billed Firefinch** and **Giant Kingfisher** were the highlights. Moving on there were **Wattled Starlings**, **Magpie Shrikes** and our first **Coppery-tailed Coucal**. Arriving at Nkwazi Lodge on the banks of the Okavango River a **Kurrichane Thrush** was spotted at its nest as soon as we arrived. Once we had reached our cabins overlooking the river we saw a group of **Arrow-marked Babblers**, quickly followed by **Hartlaub's Babblers**, a closer **Coppery-tailed Coucal**, **White-browed Robin-Chat**, **Swamp Boubou**, and a brief **Meyer's Parrot**.

During dinner a **Small Spotted Genet** was coming to scraps beside the restaurant and whilst some of the group enjoyed the local dancing provided by the lodge, others spotlighted a very confiding **Fiery-necked Nightjar** hovering in front of us before alighting on a nearby fence. We followed this with a **Rufous-cheeked Nightjar** in the spotlight calling from around 10 metres away in a field near the lodge. A great end to the day.

Day 8 Wednesday 21st October Nkwazi Lodge – Mahango NP – Lawdon's Lodge (Botswana)

A whole bunch of new birds were on the cards this morning and the first goodie was a pair of **Meyer's Parrots** feeding on the lawn beside the restaurant. Wow! Once everyone had arrived and seen the parrots, a **Black Crake** walked across the lawn as well and joined a fine looking **African Hoopoe** feeding right in front of us. Then we spent some time overlooking the Okavango River and watched **Village** and **Southern Brown-throated Weavers** in the reedbed, **Little Bee-eater**, a **Collared Pratincole** flying by, a newly arrived **Willow Warbler** and **House Martin**, and a flock of **African Yellow White-Eyes**. We walked around the corner and scoped a **Kurrichane Thrush** on its nest, then a **Tawny-flanked**



Arrow-marked Babblers

Prinia appeared before we enjoyed further views of both **Hartlaub's** and **Arrow-marked Babblers**, **Swamp Boubou** and **Coppery-tailed Coucal**. A fine male **Red-headed Weaver** was building a nest beside our cabins and there was also a **Red-billed Oxpecker** here as well.



Retz's Helmet-Shrike

Leaving here after breakfast we drove east towards our lunch stop at Poppa Falls seeing **Brown Snake Eagle**, a group of **Retz's Helmet-Shrikes**, **Black Kite** and an adult **Bateleur**. There followed the infamous iPhone incident when our vehicle drove back to our last stop to search for a missing phone, and a few of us jumped out and took the opportunity to check some roadside woodland. A good move as there were 3 **Green-capped Eremomelas** and a **Green-backed Honeybird** here. When the minibus returned we found our first **Violet-backed Starlings** and another **Kurrichane Thrush**.

Lunch at Poppa Falls Lodge produced some chocolate milkshakes, as well as **African Pied Wagtails** and **Giant Kingfisher**. From here we

had to drive across Mahango National Park to enter into Botswana and along the way saw a fine selection of animals including **Roan**, **Sable**, **Tsessebe**, **African Elephant** and **Burchell's Zebra**, with the avian highlight being some **Southern Carmine Bee-eaters** perched beside the road. The formalities at the Botswana border were quite quick and we were on our way to Lawdon's Lodge, arriving at 5pm with a chance to relax for a couple of hours before dinner. Most of us met up on the lawn overlooking the Okavango River and were confronted by a wild fire that had tore through the reedbed across the river with some flames still visible a couple of kilometres away. But birds were everywhere and we had a fine time watching **African Openbill** and **Slaty Egret** flying downriver, as well as **White-fronted Bee-eaters**, **White-browed Coucal**, **Terrestrial Brownbul**, and a **Tinkling Cisticola**.

After dinner we spotlighted a fine **African Barred Owlet** to round off another fine day.

Day 9 Thursday 22nd October Okavango River (Botswana)

We met on the lawn overlooking the Okavango River at 6am and scoped **African Openbill**, **African Marsh Harrier** and other birds flying over the burnt grassland on the opposite bank. As the day warmed up, and believe it or not it was very cool first thing, more birds appeared with **Purple-banded Sunbird**, **Black Cuckoo**, **Ashy Flycatcher** and **Orange-breasted Bush-Shrike** being the highlights.

After breakfast we went on a boat upstream for 3 hours and enjoyed crippling views of a **White-backed Night-Heron** roosting under some roots of a large tree in the riverbank, and then had a great time with close views of species such as several **African Fish-Eagles**, **White-faced Whistling-Duck**, **Hamerkop**, **Sacred Ibis**, **African Darter**, both **Goliath** and **Purple Herons**, a superb **Western Banded Snake-Eagle**, **Brown Snake-Eagle**, **Little Sparrowhawk**, several **Water Thick-Knees**, **Malachite Kingfisher**, **Broad-billed Roller**, **Green Wood-Hoopoe**, **Black-collared Barbet**, **Chirping Cisticola**, **Spectacled Weaver** and others.



White-backed Night-Heron



Pel's Fishing Owl

Best of all was when we hopped out of the boat and looked up into a huge tree and saw an adult and almost fully grown juvenile **Pel's Fishing Owl** staring back down at us. This was one of those special moments in a birders life and another one off the Bucket List. I think also seeing a pair of **African Skimmers** on a sandbank was also pretty special. And the time we spent moored close to a colony of **Southern Carmine Bee-eaters** was also a fantastic experience, with these beautiful birds flying all around us and perching really close by.

We returned to the lodge just after 11am we were greeted by flocks of **Violet-backed** and **Meve's Starlings** and then a small group of **Brown Firefinches** were seen. Lunch was at 12.30pm and we decided to go out at 4.30pm giving us several

hours to relax, siesta and swim. It was great being in the swimming pool with **White-fronted Bee-eaters** diving around our ears and grabbing insects right beside us!

At 4.30pm we drove just a very short distance to the campsite where the riverine forest was quiet apart from a couple of **African Elephants** feeding in the marsh below us – a little too close for comfort! And our first **Bushbuck** was spotted. So we returned to the lodge and scanned the river area where a pair of **Hippopotamus** loafing midstream.

Day 10 Friday 23rd October Mahango NP – Poppa Falls

With breakfast not until 7.30am we had a little time to enjoy the birding around the gardens and scanning across the river produced a **Fan-tailed Widowbird** and a **Greater Swamp Warbler**, with David and Chris finding a **Lesser Honeyguide**. It was quite hard to leave this wonderful lodge but we had to leave Botswana and along the way a dripping waterpipe beside the road was attracting lots of non-breeding **Red-billed Queleas** and **Long-tailed Paradise-Whydah**, along with flocks of **Violet-backed Starlings**, and many **Yellow-fronted Canaries**.

Crossing back into Namibia was again relatively easy and from here we drove across Mahango National Park towards our lodge. a **Striped Kingfisher** was a good spot as we drove along and we finally arrived at Poppa Falls Lodge just before midday. A short 300m walk took us to a small river where a few **Rock Pratincoles** were found, and were almost eclipsed by a couple of **Spot-necked Otters** gambolling mid-stream, and a **Red-footed Falcon** flew by.



Southern Carmine Bee-eater

After lunch we drove across the river and entered a different section of Mahango National Park and drove along a sandy track towards the flood plain where we hoped to find some new birds. At the park entrance we were told about some African Hunting Dogs that had been chasing antelope yesterday, which was very exciting news. So we drove inside the park and stopped at a couple of sites to scope **African Spoonbill**, **Spur-winged**

Goose, Long-toed Stint, Comb Duck, Long-toed Lapwing, Yellow-billed Oxpecker, Common Waterbuck and a few other species, including **Cape Buffalo** and some more **Hippos**. It was the sandy track that proved to be our downfall and curtailed our drive as our minibus got stuck in the soft sand and we had to push it out a few times before deciding to turn around and head out. Another stop on the way back produced an **African Skimmer** actually skimming in a lagoon and a **Pearl-spotted Owlet**. One last stop to watch a family of **African Elephants** resulted in a large male flaring his ears and charging at us, kicking a cloud of dust up as we sped away to safety..... We exited the park to a fabulous African sunset... And to round off the day, I put the spotlight on a **White-backed Night-Heron** in the stream below the restaurant and a pair of **African Wood Owls** were also spotlighted in the large trees right above our cabins.

Day 11 Saturday 24th October Poppa Falls – Mahango Game Park

Well the day got off to a good start when Gary and Gail saw some **Clawless Otters** in the creek behind our cabins. After a protracted breakfast we headed up to the main road and once again made an attempt at **Rufous-bellied Tit** again without any success but did find a flowering tree full of **White-bellied Sunbirds**, along with our first **Copper** and **Amethyst Sunbirds**. Walking back to the bus we flushed a **Black-bellied Bustard** and also saw a **Bradfield's Hornbill**.

We spent the morning in Mahango Park and went down to the floodplain where there were lots of whistling-ducks and **Spur-winged Geese**. After several stops and scrambling out of the minibus to set up scopes we eventually located a group of 5 **Wattled Cranes** feeding quietly across a deep channel. What a sight they made and we spent quite some time watching them through the scopes and taking photos. The large trees around us were home to a **Pearl-spotted Owlet** that was being mobbed by a **Black Scimitarbill**, a pair of **Chinspot Batis**, **Icterine Warbler**, some **Yellow-throated Petronias** and a **Black-headed Oriole**. Other birds seen included **Common Ostrich**, **Yellow-billed Stork**, **African Spoonbill**, **Western Osprey**, several **Bateleurs**, **Black-breasted Snake-Eagle**, **Booted Eagle**, **Tawny Eagle**, **Bennett's Woodpecker**, **Southern Black Tit** and **Banded Martin**.

At lunchtime Gail and I were lucky enough to see an **African Finfoot** in the creek below our cabins, whilst an **African Goshawk** flew past the restaurant. Unfortunately we couldn't locate the finfoot despite staking out the area during the course of our remaining time here.

In the afternoon we returned to Mahango Park and drove straight to the flood plain and Charly pulled the 'rabbit out of the hat' with a **Rufous-bellied Heron** that showed very well. At last! Further scanning in the same area produced a lot of good birds: 2 **Goliath Herons**, several **Long-toed Lapwings**, **Intermediate Egret**, another **African Skimmer** skimming – much to Dave W's delight, a flotilla of **Hippos** semi-submerged in the lagoon, a huge **Nile Crocodile**, a **Monitor Lizard**, our closest **African Openbill**, **Hamerkop**, **Sacred Ibis**, lots of **Collared Pratincoles**, **Brown Snake Eagle**, and a few **Jameson's Firefinches** spotted by Roberta.... A superb **Verreaux's Eagle Owl** was spotted by Garry as we drove out of the park and allowed us to take some good photo.



Brown-crowned Tchagra

Day 12 Sunday 25th October Caprivi Strip – Caprivi River Lodge

A quick check of the lodge's gardens began with a perched **African Goshawk** above our cabins, followed by **Violet-eared Waxbill**, **Brown-crowned Tchagra**, **Southern Black Tit**, **Chinspot Batis**, a showy **Terrestrial Brownbul**, as well as some previously seen species. After breakfast we loaded the luggage into the trailer and

set off along the Caprivi Strip for some 340kms, making a few stops along the way during which we found **Green-capped Eremomela**, a cracking little **Cape Penduline-Tit**, our first **Shikra**, and **Lesser Grey Shrike**. However, our best find was a pair of **Racket-tailed Rollers** that Charly called in and we watched them in a



Schalow's Turaco

dazzling display flight with one bird flying high up into the sky before closing their wings and plummeting down to earth like a bullet. Simply stunning. With temperatures in the high 30's we had a picnic lunch before continuing along the Caprivi Strip to our excellent lodge situated on the banks of the Zambezi River.

Birding here was superb with a pair of **Brown-hooded Kingfishers** showing really well in the trees below the decking overlooking the river and a few **White-crowned Lapwings** inhabiting the sandbank on the Zambia side of the river. In the front garden a pair of **Olive Woodpeckers** was a big surprise and a good find by David.

We then walked across a field to some large trees where at least 4 **Schalow's Turacos** were busy flying around from tree to tree and we had excellent views. A **Crested Barbet** also put in an appearance despite the attentions of a **Black-collared Barbet** that kept trying to chase it away and there was also a **Golden-tailed Woodpecker**. And after dinner we spotlighted another **African Wood Owl** that flew in and landed on some telegraph wires right above our heads.

Day 13 Monday 26th October Chobe NP – Chobe Bush Camp (Botswana)

We had a nice walk around the area from the lodge this morning and the undoubted highlight was finding a singing **Eastern Nicator** – a lifer for everyone and a really big surprise. There was also **Red-faced Mousebird**, both **Olive** and **Golden-tailed Woodpeckers**, **Black-collared** and **Crested Barbets**, and tons of previously seen species.

We left this wonderful lodge and drove some 50+ kms to the border and then crossed over into Botswana, where from the overlook at the passport control we saw 3 **Southern Ground Hornbills** – just a shame the people at the border crossing were such idiots! The drive through Chobe National Park to Kisane produced another 5 groups of **Southern Ground Hornbills** totalling maybe 20 individuals! We also saw **Spur-winged Goose**, **African Openbill**, **Great White Pelican**, **Rufous-bellied Heron**, **Red-crested Korhaan**, **White-headed Vulture**, **Tawny Eagle**, **Wahlberg's Eagle**, **Lesser Spotted Eagle**, a **Gabar Goshawk** being chased by a **Dark Chanting Goshawk**, **Lizard Buzzard**, **Striped Kingfisher**, and **Greater Blue-eared Glossy Starling** on the drive this morning. Lunch in Kisane was tedious but eventually our jeeps arrived and we drove off into the bush towards our remote lodge seeing a **Black-chested Snake-Eagle** along the way. Our rooms sort of overlooked a waterhole, but there was a viewing platform anyway and we spent the remainder of the day and up to 11.15pm scanning for anything that moved, which included numerous **Maggie Shrikes**, **Swainson's Francolin**, **Kori Bustard**, **Tropical Boubou**, and both oxpeckers amongst others.

At night the waterhole was floodlit and we saw 2 **Verreaux's Eagle Owls**, plus an **African Scops Owl** was spotlighted in the Acacia behind us, but there was a distinct lack of mammals tonight apart from a brief **Spotted Hyena**.

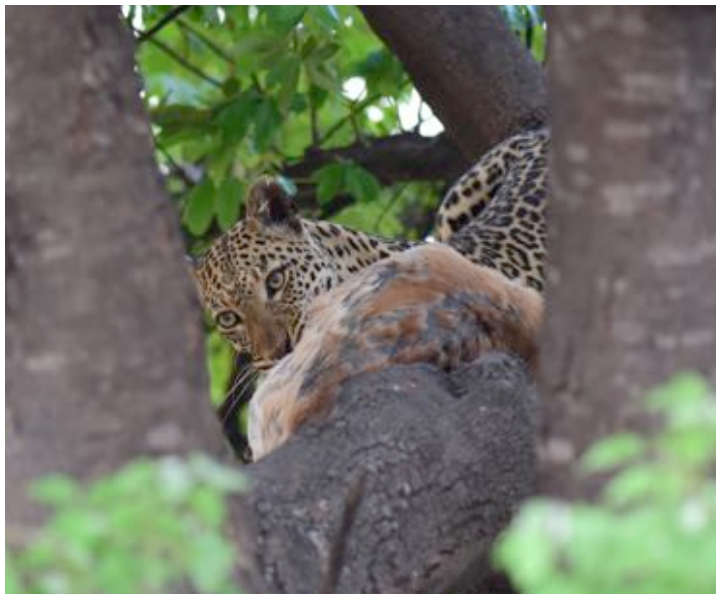
Day 14 Tuesday 27th October Chobe National Park (Botswana)

We spent the morning on a jeep safari in Chobe National Park. Following a sandy track down to the River Trail we crested a hill and below us was a vast grassy plain with a large river running through it. It was an incredible sight as there were just so many animals on view, with hundreds of **African Elephants**, and smaller numbers of **Waterbuck, Wildebeest, Hippos** and more. We heard about a Leopard sighting and drove for quite some time to get to the correct spot, but unfortunately it had disappeared and in hindsight we wasted several hours waiting in the general vicinity for the beast to show. But we did see quite a lot of birds such as **Hooded Vulture, Pallid Harrier, Burchell's Sandgrouse, Black-crowned Tchagra, Red-billed Firefinch** and **Shaft-tailed Whydah**.

One of my personal highlights of the day was watching a **Collared Palm Thrush** feeding on the lawn of a hotel at lunchtime, just right there out in the open. Wow! Almost as exciting as the **Bronze Mannikins** claimed by one of our jeeps!! After lunch the group split up into two, with a few people going with me in the jeep to look for the **Leopard** again, whilst the rest went with Charly on a boat trip into Chobe National Park. A great time was had by the group on the boat with close views of **Elephants** and **Hippos** right beside the boat, and a new mammal in the shape of a rare **Puku**. New birds included **Grey Crowned Crane**, the scarce **Luapula Cisticola**, **Red-faced Cisticola**, and **Black-headed Heron**.



Collared Palm Thrush



One of the major trip highlights – Leopard at a kill

Meanwhile the jeep crew followed the River Trail and the amount of wildlife on view was stunning. Pity we didn't count the **African Elephants** but I would guesstimate almost a 1,000 animals along the river, as well as **Hippos, Sable, Wild Boar, Warthog** and **Impala** all feeding on the floodplain. Some of the ellies were so close...Moving on we reached the Leopard tree at 5pm and sure enough the **Leopard** was there just a few metres away from its kill, resting on a thick branch. Over the course of an hour we watched this young female moving around in the tree and finally coming down to its kill to feed. What a privilege to watch this beautiful animal in its natural environment, but all too soon we had to leave and rejoin the rest of the group back at the Bush Camp where we enjoyed a fine meal and a little relaxing time at the watchpoint. With nothing much happening we all retired early to

bed. This had been a great day with plenty of great wildlife viewing and some decent birds as well...!

Day 15 Wednesday 28th October Livingstone – Victoria Falls (Zambia)

We left Botswana and headed into Zambia, where we were to spend our final night at a secluded lodge at the edge of Livingstone. Birds seen along the way today was our only **Black Heron** of the tour, **Hadada Ibis, Lizard**

Buzzard, Pearl-spotted Owlet, Brown-hooded Kingfisher, Tropical Boubou, Ashy Flycatcher and Holub's Golden Weaver amongst others.

It took most of the morning to reach our lodge and afterwards we visited the famous Victoria Falls. At this time of the year the falls were practically dry, with water only present on the far side. So we birded the surrounding forest and came up trumps with **Natal Spurfowl** and several superb **Trumpeter Hornbills**, along with lots of **Red-winged Starlings**. After enjoying the scenery and doing 'the touristy thing' we returned to the lodge for our final evening dinner together and time to reflect on what had been an exciting journey across three countries.

Day 16 Thursday 29th October Livingstone Sewage Pools – End of Tour

Left at 6.30am and drove to Livingstone Sewage Pools, which was a really great site and choc full of birds. Pride of place went to a couple Lesser Jacanas and an African Rail that showed really well. There was also Common Myna, Buffy Pipit, Pin-tailed Whydah, White-winged Widowbird, Red-necked Falcon, Long-toed Lapwing, Squacco heron, Glossy Ibis, and lots of commoner species. Then after breakfast we drove just 20 minutes to Livingstone Airport and flew to Johannesburg and on to the UK and the conclusion of a wonderful tour.

Many thanks to a wonderful group for making this tour such a pleasure to lead. Special thanks to my friend and co-leader Charles Rhyn, who had organised this tour and looked after us all so well. You couldn't wish for a more professional and knowledgeable guide to show you the amazing wildlife this awesome part of the world has to offer. I cannot wait to return!

Nick Bray.



The famous 'Ghost Elephants of Etosha' © Tom Bray

SYSTEMATIC LIST – NAMIBIA, BOTSWANA & ZAMBIA OCTOBER 2015

STRUTHIONIFORMES: Struthionidae

Common Ostrich

Struthio camelus

ANSERIFORMES: Anatidae

White-faced Whistling-Duck

Dendrocygna viduata

Comb Duck

Sarkidiornis melanotos

Egyptian Goose

Alopochen aegyptiaca

Spur-winged Goose

Plectropterus gambensis

Red-billed Duck

Anas erythrorhyncha

Hottentot Teal

Anas hottentota

Cape Teal

Anas capensis

GALLIFORMES: Numididae

Helmeted Guineafowl

Numida meleagris

Crested Guineafowl

Guttera pucherani

GALLIFORMES: Phasianidae

Crested Francolin

Dendroperdix sephaena

Orange River Francolin

Scleroptila gutturalis

Red-billed Spurfowl

Pternistis adspersus

Swainson's Spurfowl

Pternistis swainsonii

Natal Spurfowl

Pternistis natalensis

PODICIPEDIFORMES: Podicipedidae

Little Grebe

Tachybaptus ruficollis

Black-necked Grebe

Podiceps nigricollis

CICONIIFORMES: Ciconiidae

African Openbill

Anastomus lamelligerus

Marabou Stork

Leptoptilos crumenifer

Yellow-billed Stork

Mycteria ibis

SULIFORMES: Phalacrocoracidae

White-breasted Cormorant

Phalacrocorax lucidus

Long-tailed (Reed) Cormorant

Phalacrocorax africanus

SULIFORMES: Anhingidae

African Darter

Anhinga rufa

PELECANIFORMES: Pelecanidae

Great White Pelican

Pelecanus onocrotalus

PELECANIFORMES: Scopidae

Hamerkop

Scopus umbretta

PELECANIFORMES: Ardeidae

Grey Heron

Ardea cinerea

Black-headed Heron

Ardea melanocephala

Goliath Heron

Ardea goliath

Purple Heron

Ardea purpurea

Great Egret

Ardea alba

Intermediate Egret

Egretta intermedia

Little Egret

Egretta garzetta

Slaty Egret
Black Heron
Western Cattle Egret
Squacco Heron
Rufous-bellied Heron
Striated Heron
Black-crowned Night-Heron
White-backed Night-Heron

PELECANIFORMES: Threskiornithidae

Glossy Ibis
Sacred Ibis
Hadada Ibis
African Spoonbill

ACCIPITRIFORMES: Sagittariidae

Secretary-bird

ACCIPITRIFORMES: Pandionidae

Western Osprey

ACCIPITRIFORMES: Accipitridae

Black-shouldered Kite
African Harrier-Hawk
White-headed Vulture
Lappet-faced Vulture
Hooded Vulture
White-backed Vulture
Cape Griffon
Bateleur
Black-breasted Snake-Eagle
Brown Snake-Eagle
Western Banded Snake-Eagle
Martial Eagle
Lesser Spotted Eagle
Wahlberg's Eagle
Booted Eagle
Tawny Eagle
Verreaux's Eagle
African Hawk-Eagle
Lizard Buzzard
Dark Chanting-Goshawk
Pale Chanting-Goshawk
Gabar Goshawk
African Marsh-Harrier
Pallid Harrier
African Goshawk
Shikra
Little Sparrowhawk
Yellow-billed Kite
Black Kite
African Fish-Eagle
Steppe (Common) Buzzard

OTIDIFORMES: Otidae

Kori Bustard
Red-crested Bustard
Northern Black Korhaan

Egretta vinaceigula
Egretta ardesiaca
Bubulcus ibis
Ardeola ralloides
Ardeola rufiventris
Butorides striata
Nycticorax nycticorax
Gorsachius leuconotus

Plegadis falcinellus
Threskiornis aethiopicus
Bostrychia hagedash
Platalea alba

Sagittarius serpentarius

Pandion haliaetus

Elanus caeruleus
Polyboroides typus
Trionoceph occipitalis
Torgos tracheliotos
Necrosyrtes monachus
Gyps africanus
Gyps coprotheres
Terathopus ecaudatus
Circaetus pectoralis
Circaetus cinereus
Circaetus cinerascens
Polemaetus bellicosus
Clanga pomarina
Hieraaetus wahlbergi
Hieraaetus pennatus
Aquila rapax
Aquila verreauxii
Aquila spilogaster
Kaupifalco monogrammicus
Melierax metabates
Melierax canorus
Micronisus gabar
Circus ranivorus
Circus macrourus
Accipiter tachiro
Accipiter badius
Accipiter minullus
Milvus aegyptius
Milvus migrans
Haliaeetus vocifer
Buteo buteo vulpinus

Ardeotis kori
Eupodotis ruficrista
Eupodotis afraoides

Black-bellied Bustard

Lissotis melanogaster

GRUIFORMES: Rallidae

African Rail

Rallus caerulescens

Black Crake

Amaurornis flavirostra

African Swampphen

Porphyrio madagascariensis

Common Moorhen

Gallinula chloropus

Red-knobbed Coot

Fulica cristata

GRUIFORMES: Heliornithidae

African Finfoot

Podica senegalensis

GRUIFORMES: Gruidae

Grey Crowned-Crane

Balearica regulorum

Blue Crane

Anthropoides paradiseus

Wattled Crane

Bugeranus carunculatus

CHARADRIIFORMES: Burhinidae

Water Thick-knee

Burhinus vermiculatus

Spotted Thick-knee

Burhinus capensis

CHARADRIIFORMES: Recurvirostridae

Black-winged Stilt

Himantopus himantopus

CHARADRIIFORMES: Charadriidae

Long-toed Lapwing

Vanellus crassirostris

Blacksmith Lapwing

Vanellus armatus

White-crowned Lapwing

Vanellus albiceps

Crowned Lapwing

Vanellus coronatus

African Wattled Lapwing

Vanellus senegallus

Caspian Plover

Charadrius asiaticus

Kittlitz's Plover

Charadrius pecuarius

Three-banded Plover

Charadrius tricollaris

Chestnut-banded Plover

Charadrius pallidus

Common Ringed Plover

Charadrius hiaticula

CHARADRIIFORMES: Rostratulidae

Greater Painted-Snipe

Rostratula benghalensis

CHARADRIIFORMES: Jacanidae

Lesser Jacana

Microparra capensis

African Jacana

Actophilornis africanus

CHARADRIIFORMES: Scolopacidae

Common Sandpiper

Actitis hypoleucos

Common Greenshank

Tringa nebularia

Marsh Sandpiper

Tringa stagnatilis

Wood Sandpiper

Tringa glareola

CHARADRIIFORMES: Scolopacidae

Ruff

Calidris pugnax

Little Stint

Calidris minuta

African Snipe

Gallinago nigripennis

CHARADRIIFORMES: Glareolidae

Burchell's Courser

Cursorius rufus

Temminck's Courser

Cursorius temminckii

Double-banded Courser

Smutsornis africanus

Bronze-winged Courser (H)
Collared Pratincole
Rock Pratincole

Rhinoptilus chalcopterus
Glareola pratincola
Glareola nuchalis

CHARADRIIFORMES: Laridae

Grey-headed Gull
Whiskered Tern
African Skimmer

Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus
Chlidonias hybrida
Rynchops flavirostris

PTEROCLIFORMES: Pteroclididae

Namaqua Sandgrouse

Pterocles namaqua

PTEROCLIFORMES: Pteroclididae

Double-banded Sandgrouse
Burchell's Sandgrouse

Pterocles bicinctus
Pterocles burchelli

COLUMBIFORMES: Columbidae

Rock Pigeon
Speckled Pigeon
Mourning Collared-Dove
Red-eyed Dove
Ring-necked Dove
Laughing Dove
Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove
Namaqua Dove
African Green-Pigeon

Columba livia
Columba guinea
Streptopelia decipiens
Streptopelia semitorquata
Streptopelia capicola
Streptopelia senegalensis
Turtur chalcospilos
Oena capensis
Treron calvus

CUCULIFORMES: Musophagidae

Schalow's Turaco
Grey Go-away-bird

Tauraco schalowi
Corythaixoides concolor

CUCULIFORMES: Cuculidae

Pied Cuckoo
Black Cuckoo
African Cuckoo
Klaas's Cuckoo
Coppery-tailed Coucal
Senegal Coucal
White-browed Coucal

Clamator jacobinus
Cuculus clamosus
Cuculus gularis
Chrysococcyx klaas
Centropus cupreicaudus
Centropus senegalensis
Centropus superciliosus

STRIGIFORMES: Strigidae

African Scops-Owl
Spotted Eagle-Owl
Verreaux's Eagle-Owl
Pel's Fishing-Owl
Pearl-spotted Owlet
African Barred Owlet
African Wood-Owl

Otus senegalensis
Bubo africanus
Bubo lacteus
Scotopelia peli
Glaucidium perlatum
Glaucidium capense
Strix woodfordii

CAPRIMULGIFORMES: Caprimulgidae

Rufous-cheeked Nightjar
Fiery-necked Nightjar
Freckled Nightjar

Caprimulgus rufigena
Caprimulgus pectoralis
Caprimulgus tristigma

APODIFORMES: Apodidae

Alpine Swift
Bradfield's Swift

Apus melba
Apus bradfieldi

Little Swift
White-rumped Swift
African Palm Swift

Apus affinis
Apus caffer
Cypsiurus parvus

COLIIFORMES: Coliidae

White-backed Mousebird
Red-faced Mousebird

Colius colius
Urocolius indicus

CORACIIFORMES: Alcedinidae

Malachite Kingfisher
Brown-hooded Kingfisher
Striped Kingfisher
Giant Kingfisher
Pied Kingfisher

Corythornis cristatus
Halcyon albiventris
Halcyon chelicuti
Megaceryle maxima
Ceryle rudis

CORACIIFORMES: Meropidae

White-fronted Bee-eater
Little Bee-eater
Swallow-tailed Bee-eater
European Bee-eater
Southern Carmine Bee-eater

Merops bullockoides
Merops pusillus
Merops hirundineus
Merops apiaster
Merops nubicoides

CORACIIFORMES: Coraciidae

Lilac-breasted Roller
Racket-tailed Roller
Rufous-crowned (Purple) Roller
Broad-billed Roller

Coracias caudatus
Coracias spatulatus
Coracias naevius
Eurystomus glaucurus

CORACIIFORMES: Upupidae

African Hoopoe

Upupa africana

CORACIIFORMES: Phoeniculidae

Green Woodhoopoe
Violet Woodhoopoe
Common Scimitarbill

Phoeniculus purpureus
Phoeniculus damarensis
Rhinopomastus cyanomelas

CORACIIFORMES: Bucorvidae

Southern Ground-Hornbill

Bucorvus leadbeateri

CORACIIFORMES: Bucerotidae

Monteiro's Hornbill
Southern Red-billed Hornbill
Damara Red-billed Hornbill
Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill
Bradfield's Hornbill
African Grey Hornbill
Trumpeter Hornbill

Tockus monteiri
Tockus rufirostris
Tockus damarensis
Tockus leucomelas
Tockus bradfieldi
Tockus nasutus
Ceratogymna bucinator

PICIFORMES: Lybiidae

Crested Barbet
Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird
Acacia Pied Barbet
Black-collared Barbet

Trachyphonus vaillantii
Pogoniulus chrysoconus
Tricholaema leucomelas
Lybius torquatus

PICIFORMES: Indicatoridae

Brown-backed Honeybird
Lesser Honeyguide
Greater Honeyguide

Prodotiscus regulus
Indicator minor
Indicator indicator

PICIFORMES: Picidae

Bennett's Woodpecker
 Golden-tailed Woodpecker
 Cardinal Woodpecker
 Olive Woodpecker

Campethera bennettii
Campethera abingoni
Dendropicos fuscescens
Dendropicos griseocephalus

FALCONIFORMES: Falconidae

Rock Kestrel
 Greater Kestrel
 Red-necked Falcon
 Red-footed Falcon
 African Hobby
 Lanner Falcon

Falco rupicolus
Falco rupicoloides
Falco chicquera
Falco vespertinus
Falco cuvierii
Falco biarmicus

PSITTACIFORMES: Psittaculidae

Rosy-faced Lovebird (H)

Agapornis roseicollis

PSITTACIFORMES: Psittacidae

Meyer's Parrot
 Ruppell's Parrot

Poicephalus meyeri
Poicephalus rueppellii

PASSERIFORMES: Platysteiridae

Chinspot Batis
 Pirit Batis

Batis molitor
Batis pririt

PASSERIFORMES: Vangidae

White-crested Helmetshrike
 Retz's Helmetshrike

Prionops plumatus
Prionops retzii

PASSERIFORMES: Malaconotidae

Brubru
 Black-backed Puffback
 Black-crowned Tchagra
 Brown-crowned Tchagra
 Tropical Boubou
 Gabon (Swamp) Boubou
 Crimson-breasted Shrike
 Sulphur-breasted Bushshrike

Nilaus afer
Dryoscopus cubla
Tchagra senegalus
Tchagra australis
Laniarius major
Laniarius bicolor
Laniarius atrococcineus
Telophorus sulfureopectus

PASSERIFORMES: Laniidae

Lesser Grey Shrike
 Southern Fiscal
 Magpie Shrike
 Southern White-crowned Shrike

Lanius minor
Lanius collaris
Corvinella melanoleuca
Eurocephalus anguitimens

PASSERIFORMES: Oriolidae

Eurasian Golden Oriole
 African Black-headed Oriole

Oriolus oriolus
Oriolus larvatus

PASSERIFORMES: Dicruridae

Fork-tailed Drongo

Dicrurus adsimilis

PASSERIFORMES: Monarchidae

African Paradise-Flycatcher

Terpsiphone viridis

PASSERIFORMES: Corvidae

Cape Crow
 Pied Crow

Corvus capensis
Corvus albus

PASSERIFORMES: Nicatoridae

Eastern Nicator

*Nicator gularis***PASSERIFORMES: Alaudidae**

Sabota Lark

Calendulauda sabota

Fawn-colored Lark

Calendulauda africanoides

Spike-heeled Lark

Chersomanes albofasciata

Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark

Eremopterix leucotis

Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark

Eremopterix verticalis

Red-capped Lark

Calandrella cinerea

Pink-billed Lark

*Spizocorys conirostris***PASSERIFORMES: Hirundinidae**

Brown-throated (Plain) Martin

Riparia paludicola

Banded Martin

Riparia cincta

Common House Martin

Delichon urbicon

Rock Martin

Ptyonoprogne fuligula

Barn Swallow

Hirundo rustica

White-throated Swallow

Hirundo albigularis

Wire-tailed Swallow

Hirundo smithii

Greater Striped Swallow

Cecropis cucullata

Lesser Striped Swallow

Cecropis abyssinica

Rufous-chested (Red-breasted) Swallow

Cecropis semirufa

South African Cliff Swallow

*Petrochelidon spilodera***PASSERIFORMES: Paridae**

Southern Black-Tit

Melaniparus niger

Carp's Tit

*Melaniparus carpi***PASSERIFORMES: Remizidae**

Southern (Cape) Penduline-Tit

*Anthoscopus minutus***PASSERIFORMES: Pycnonotidae**

Yellow-bellied Greenbul

Chlorocichla flaviventris

Terrestrial Brownbul

Phyllastrephus terrestris

African Red-eyed Bulbul

Pycnonotus nigricans

Dark-capped Bulbul

*Pycnonotus tricolor***PASSERIFORMES: Macrosphenidae**

Cape (Long-billed) Crombec

Sylvietta rufescens

Rockrunner

*Achaetops pycnopygius***PASSERIFORMES: Phylloscopidae**

Willow Warbler

*Phylloscopus trochilus***PASSERIFORMES: Acrocephalidae**

Icterine Warbler

Hippolais icterina

African Reed Warbler (H)

Acrocephalus baeticatus

Lesser Swamp Warbler (H)

Acrocephalus gracilirostris

Greater Swamp Warbler

*Acrocephalus rufescens***PASSERIFORMES: Cisticolidae**

Yellow-breasted Apalis

Apalis flavida

Grey-backed Camaroptera

*Camaroptera brevicaudata***PASSERIFORMES: Cisticolidae**

Rufous-eared Warbler

Malcorus pectoralis

Red-faced Cisticola

Cisticola erythrops

Rattling Cisticola
Luapula Cisticola
Tinkling Cisticola
Chirping Cisticola
Zitting Cisticola
Desert Cisticola

Tawny-flanked Prinia
Black-chested Prinia
Yellow-bellied Eremomela
Green-capped Eremomela
Burnt-neck Eremomela

PASSERIFORMES: Sylviidae

Chestnut-vented Tit-babbler

PASSERIFORMES: Zosteropidae

African Yellow White-eye

PASSERIFORMES: Leiothrichidae

Hartlaub's Babbler
Black-faced Babbler
Southern Pied Babbler
Arrow-marked Babbler
Bare-cheeked Babbler

PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae

Pale Flycatcher
Chat Flycatcher
Marico Flycatcher
Spotted Flycatcher
Ashy Flycatcher
Grey Tit-Flycatcher
Kalahari Scrub-Robin
White-browed Scrub-Robin
White-browed Robin-Chat
Collared Palm-Thrush
Short-toed Rock-Thrush
African Stonechat
Familiar Chat
Mountain Wheatear
Capped Wheatear

PASSERIFORMES: Turdidae

Groundscraper Thrush
Kurrichane Thrush

PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae

Wattled Starling
Cape Glossy-Starling
Greater Blue-eared Glossy-Starling
Meves's Glossy-Starling
Burchell's Glossy-Starling
Violet-backed Starling
Red-winged Starling
Pale-winged Starling

PASSERIFORMES: Buphagidae

Red-billed Oxpecker

Cisticola chiniana
Cisticola luapula
Cisticola rufilatus
Cisticola pipiens
Cisticola juncidis
Cisticola aridulus
Prinia subflava
Prinia flavicans
Eremomela icteropygialis
Eremomela scotops
Eremomela uesticollis

Sylvia subcaerulea

Zosterops senegalensis

Turdoides hartlaubii
Turdoides melanops
Turdoides bicolor
Turdoides jardineii
Turdoides gymnogenys

Bradornis pallidus
Bradornis infuscatus
Bradornis mariquensis
Muscicapa striata
Muscicapa caerulescens
Myioparus plumbeus
Cercotrichas paena
Cercotrichas leucophrys
Cossypha heuglini
Cichladusa arquata
Monticola brevipes
Saxicola torquatus
Cercomela familiaris
Oenanthe monticola
Oenanthe pileata

Psophocichla litsitsirupa
Turdus libonyana

Creatophora cinerea
Lamprotornis nitens
Lamprotornis chalybaeus
Lamprotornis mevesii
Lamprotornis australis
Cinnyricinclus leucogaster
Onychognathus morio
Onychognathus naboroupa

Buphagus erythrorhynchus

Yellow-billed Oxpecker

Buphagus africanus

PASSERIFORMES: Nectariniidae

Collared Sunbird

Hedydipna collaris

Amethyst Sunbird

Chalcomitra amethystina

Scarlet-chested Sunbird

Chalcomitra senegalensis

Marico Sunbird

Cinnyris mariquensis

Purple-banded Sunbird

Cinnyris bifasciatus

White-bellied Sunbird

Cinnyris talatala

Copper Sunbird

Cinnyris cupreus

PASSERIFORMES: Motacillidae

Western Yellow Wagtail

Motacilla flava

Cape Wagtail

Motacilla capensis

African Pied Wagtail

Motacilla aguimp

African Pipit

Anthus cinnamomeus

Long-billed Pipit

Anthus similis

Buffy Pipit

Anthus vaalensis

PASSERIFORMES: Emberizidae

Cape Bunting

Emberiza capensis

Golden-breasted Bunting

Emberiza flaviventris

PASSERIFORMES: Fringillidae

Yellow-fronted Canary

Serinus mozambicus

Black-throated Canary

Serinus atrogularis

Yellow Canary

Serinus flaviventris

PASSERIFORMES: Passeridae

House Sparrow

Passer domesticus

Great Rufous Sparrow

Passer motitensis

Cape Sparrow

Passer melanurus

Southern Grey-headed Sparrow

Passer diffusus

Yellow-throated Petronia

Petronia supercilialis

PASSERIFORMES: Ploceidae

Red-billed Buffalo-Weaver

Bubalornis niger

Scaly-feathered Finch

Sporopipes squamifrons

White-browed Sparrow-Weaver

Plocepasser mahali

Social Weaver

Philetairus socius

Red-headed Weaver

Anaplectes rubriceps

Spectacled Weaver

Ploceus ocularis

Holub's Golden-Weaver

Ploceus xanthops

Southern Brown-throated Weaver

Ploceus xanthopterus

Lesser Masked Weaver

Ploceus intermedius

Southern Masked Weaver

Ploceus velatus

Village Weaver

Ploceus cucullatus

Red-billed Quelea

Quelea quelea

White-winged Widowbird

Euplectes albonotatus

Fan-tailed Widowbird

Euplectes axillaris

PASSERIFORMES: Estrildidae

Common Waxbill

Estrilda astrild

Black-faced Waxbill

Estrilda erythronotos

Blue-breasted (Southern) Cordonbleu

Uraeginthus angolensis

Violet-eared Waxbill

Granatina granatina

Green-winged Pytilia

Pytilia melba

Red-billed Firefinch

Lagonosticta senegala

Brown Firefinch
Jameson's Firefinch
Red-headed Finch
Bronze Mannikin

Lagonosticta nitidula
Lagonosticta rhodopareia
Amadina erythrocephala
Spermestes cucullata

PASSERIFORMES: Viduidae

Pin-tailed Whydah
Eastern (Long-tailed) Paradise-Whydah
Shaft-tailed Whydah

Vidua macroura
Vidua paradisaea
Vidua regia

MAMMALS

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Rats and Mice: Muridae

Tree Climbing Mouse
Four-striped Grass Mouse

Dendromus sp.
Rhabdomys pumilio

Baboons and Monkeys: Cercopithecidae

Chacma Baboon
Vervet Monkey

Papio cynocephalus ursinus
Cercopithecus pygerythrus

Galagos: Galagidae

Southern Lesser Galago

Galago moholi

Hares and Rabbits: Leporidae

Cape Hare
Scrub Hare

Lepus capensis
Lepus saxatilis

Squirrels: Sciuridae

South African Ground Squirrel
Smith's Bush Squirrel

Xerus inauris
Paraxerus cepapi

Dogs and Allies: Canidae

Black-backed Jackal
Bat-eared Fox

Canis mesomelas
Otacyon megalotis

Mustelids: Mustelidae

Spot-necked Otter
Cape Clawless Otter

Lutra maculicollis
Aonyx capensis

Mongoose: Herpestidae

Slender Mongoose
Banded Mongoose
Yellow Mongoose
Dwarf Mongoose

Herpestes sanguinea
Mungos mungo
Herpestes ochracea
Helogale parvula

Hyenas: Hyaenidae

Spotted Hyena

Crocuta crocuta

Genets and Civets: Viverridae

Small Spotted (Common) Genet

Genetta genetta

Cats: Felidae

Lion

Panthera leo

Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>
Cheetah	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>

Hyraxes: Procaviidae

Cape Rock Hyrax	<i>Procavia capensis</i>
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Elephants: Elephantidae

African Elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>
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Horses: Equidae

Common/Plains/Burchell's Zebra	<i>Equus burchelli</i>
Hartmann's Mountain Zebra	<i>Equus zebra hartmahhae</i>

Rhinoceroses: Rhinocerotidae

Black (hook-lipped) Rhinoceros	<i>Diceros bicornis</i>
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Hippopotamuses: Hippopotimidae

Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>
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Pigs: Suidae

Common Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>
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Giraffes: Giraffidae

Southern Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>
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Bovids and Horned Ungulates: Bovidae

African Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>
Greater Kudu	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>
Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>
Red Lechwe	<i>Kobus leche</i>
Puku	<i>Kobus vardonii</i>
Sable Antelope	<i>Hippotragus niger</i>
Roan Antelope	<i>Hippotragus equinus</i>
Gemsbok (Oryx)	<i>Oryx gazelle</i>
Common Reedbuck	<i>Redunca arundinum</i>
Common Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>
Blue Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>
Red Hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus</i>
Tsessebe	<i>Damaliscus lunatus</i>
Eland	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>
Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus melampus</i>
Black-faced Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus petersi</i>
Springbok	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>
Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>
Damara Dik-dik	<i>Madoqua damarensis</i>
Common Duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>

OTHER ANIMALS

Nile Monitor
 Namibian Rock Agama
 Western Rock Skink
 Striped Skink
 Common House Gecko
 Nile Crocodile
 Marsh (Helmeted) Terrapin
 Preying Mantis

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Varanus niloticus
Agama planiceps
Mabuya sulcata
Trachylepsis striata
Hemidactylus frenatus
Crocodylus niloticus
Pelomedusa subrufa
Mantis religiosa



Bat-eared Fox



Blue Wildebeest



Hippos at Mahango



Southern Oryx and Kudu



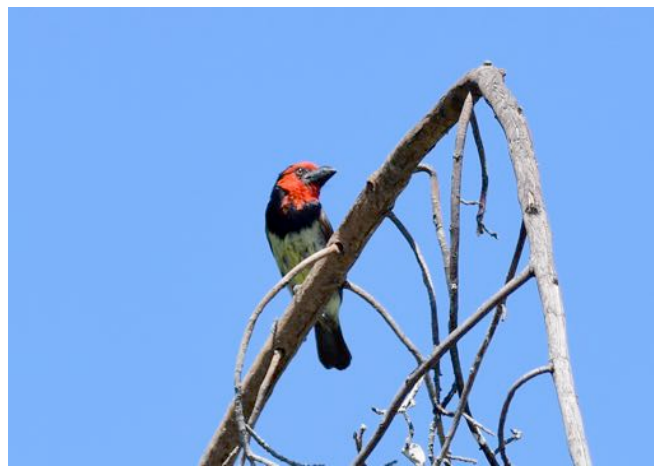
Spotted Hyena



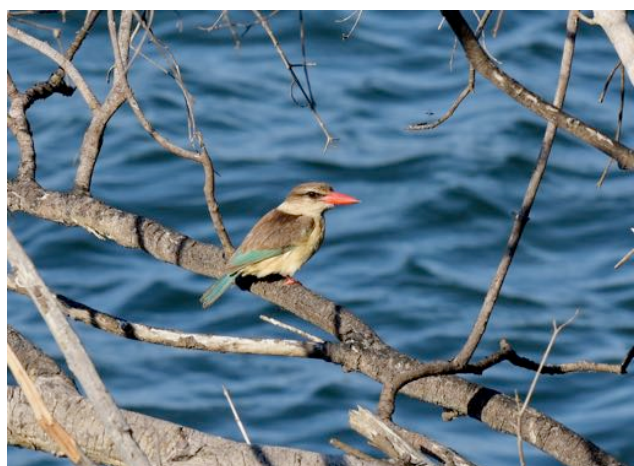
Roan



African Skimmers



Black-collared Barbet



Brown-hooded Kingfisher



Double-banded Courser



Green-capped Eremomelas



Green-winged Pytilia



Black Rhino at Etosha



Lions, Spotted Hyenas and Black-backed Jackals fighting over a kill



Secretarybird at Etosha



Red-crested Korhaan



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