



1-DAY WALTER SISULU NATIONAL BOTANICAL GARDEN BIRDING TOUR



Walter Sisulu National Botanical garden is best known amongst birders for its resident pair of Verreaux's Eagles.

These beautiful botanic gardens are one of Johannesburg's most idyllic natural sites, and here one can see **Verreaux's Eagle** and other raptors soar in front of a lovely waterfall, while the beautiful landscaped gardens are literally hopping with birds, many of them very approachable.

The Aloe garden can sometimes be teeming with spectacular sunbirds, such as **White-bellied**, **Greater Double-collared**, **Malachite** and **Amethyst**. The lawns are often crawling with **Crowned**, **Blacksmith** and **African Wattled Lapwings**, **Crested Barbet**, **Bokmakierie**, **Cape Robin-Chat**, **Karoo** and **Kurrichane Thrushes**, and many others. The woodlands and forests have **Black-headed Oriole**, **African Paradise Flycatcher**, and various **cuckoos** in summer, such as **Red-chested**, **Black**, and **Diederik**. Small lakes and a pleasant river support other good birds, including uncommon species such as **African Black Duck**, as well as **kingfishers**, including **Giant** and **Half-collared** (with a bit of luck). A more strenuous walk can generate some less regularly recorded species such as **Lazy Cisticola** or **Striped Pipit**, among others.



Greater Double-collared Sunbirds can be seen feeding on flowers in the garden.

These lovely gardens are home to a great many other birds not mentioned above, and they lend themselves particularly well to a productive and pleasant half day of birding, for the morning or afternoon. If you wish to bird for the whole day, either it's at a relaxed pace or we can take you to additional sites. The gardens are one of the best places in Johannesburg for bird photography, because the birds tend to be confiding.

The guide for day trips is allocated only after you have booked, as all of them are run as private trips. But we always use the country's top birding guides.

Duration: 1 day

Start: Johannesburg/Pretoria

End: Johannesburg/Pretoria

Price: R4,500 for one person (then R500 per extra person)