



**THE BEST OF MADAGASCAR AND NORTHWEST,
MASOALA AND BERENTY EXTENSIONS TRIP REPORT**

06 October - 05 November 2016



The Endangered (IUCN) Malagasy Sacred Ibis - *Threskiornis bernieri*

ITINERARY

| Day | Date | Start | Finish |
|-----|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | 06 October 2016 | Antananarivo | Antananarivo |
| 2 | 07 October 2016 | Antananarivo | Antananarivo |
| 3 | 08 October 2016 | Antananarivo | Mahajanga |
| 4 | 09 October 2016 | Mahajanga | Ankarafantsika NP |
| 5 | 10 October 2016 | Ankarafantsika NP | Ankarafantsika NP |
| 6 | 11 October 2016 | Ankarafantsika NP | Antananarivo |
| 7 | 12 October 2016 | Antananarivo | Masoala National Park |
| 8 | 13 October 2016 | Masoala National Park | Masoala National Park |
| 9 | 14 October 2016 | Masoala National Park | Masoala National Park |
| 10 | 15 October 2016 | Masoala National Park | Antananarivo |
| 11 | 16 October 2016 | Antananarivo | Anjozorobe |
| 12 | 17 October 2016 | Anjozorobe | Antananarivo |
| 13 | 18 October 2016 | Antananarivo | Andasibe |
| 14 | 19 October 2016 | Andasibe | Andasibe |
| 15 | 20 October 2016 | Andasibe | Andasibe |
| 16 | 21 October 2016 | Andasibe | Antsirabe |
| 17 | 22 October 2016 | Antsirabe | Ranomafana NP |
| 18 | 23 October 2016 | Ranomafana NP | Ranomafana NP |
| 19 | 24 October 2016 | Ranomafana NP | Ranomafana NP |
| 20 | 25 October 2016 | Ranomafana NP | Isalo |
| 21 | 26 October 2016 | Isalo | Ifaty |
| 22 | 27 October 2016 | Ifaty | Ifaty |
| 23 | 28 October 2016 | Ifaty | Toliara |
| 24 | 29 October 2016 | Toliara | Toliara |
| 25 | 30 October 2016 | Toliara | Antananarivo |
| 26 | 31 October 2016 | Antananarivo | Fort Dauphin |
| 27 | 01 November 2016 | Fort Dauphin | Berenty |
| 28 | 02 November 2016 | Berenty | Berenty |
| 29 | 03 November 2016 | Berenty | Fort Dauphin |
| 30 | 04 November 2016 | Fort Dauphin | Antananarivo |
| 31 | 05 November 2016 | Antananarivo | Departure |

Day 1: 6 October 2016

Our first day of the tour consisted of meets and greets for the first of the participants heading off to explore the northwest of the island. We were based in Antananarivo, the capital, for the day, and with little vegetation beyond the hotel walls we only managed to pick up **Red Fody**, **Malagasy White-eye**, **Madagascan Wagtail**, **Common Myna**, **Malagasy Bulbul**, **Madagascan Stonechat**, **Mascarene Martin**, and **Olive Bee-eater**. A walk around dusk produced **Malagasy Kestrel**, **Malagasy Brush Warbler**, **Squacco Heron**, **Black Heron**, and **Western Cattle** and **Great Egrets** flying overhead in direction of their evening roosts. We soon departed for our own.

Day 2: 7 October 2016

After breakfast we made our way to one of the local water bodies in the capital city. A small lake, surrounded by lush, exotic vegetation, provided refuge for a number of bird species. The lake itself produced **Red-billed Teal**, **Hottentot Teal**, **Knob-billed Duck**, **White-faced** and **Fulvous Whistling Ducks**, the endemic **Meller's Duck**, **Common Moorhen**, **Red-knobbed Coot**, **Malagasy Kingfisher**, and a variety of herons and egrets such as **Western Cattle**, **Great**, and **Dimorphic** (both white and dark morphs) **Egrets**, **Black Heron**, **Black-crowned Night Heron**, **Squacco Heron**, and **Malagasy Pond Heron**. In the vegetated areas **Red Fody**, **Malagasy White-eye**, **Madagascan Hoopoe**, **Common Jery**, **Souimanga Sunbird**, **Common Myna**, **Malagasy Coucal**, and **Madagascan Mannikins** persisted, while the reeds along the water's edge yielded **Madagascan Swamp Warbler** and prolonged views of the exquisite **White-throated Rail**.

After lunch back in the center of town we had a brief break before making our way to the local zoo. Here we had repeat views of many of the herons and egrets as well as **Malagasy Kingfisher** and an addition in the form of **Malagasy Turtle Dove**, while a variety of unique lemurs and birds were on show in the zoo grounds, including a small number of the interesting fossa.



Malagasy Kingfisher - *Corythornis vintsioides*

Day 3: 8 October 2016

This morning we revisited the local lake. The species on show were very much the same as on our prior visit, but we did enjoy watching **Black Herons** spreading wings to catch their fish, **Malagasy Kingfishers** hunting and darting around the lakes, while **Malagasy Pond Herons** were in full display and finally were seen up close after leaving the safety of the island on which they breed. **Malagasy Coucal**, **Common Jery**, **Red Fody**, and countless

other common species entertained us almost as much as watching a **Malagasy Kestrel** successfully hunt a lizard in the horse paddocks. Although **White-throated Rails** were audible, none came into view. The only new bird so far was **Malagasy Black Swift** before we headed back to the hotel for lunch and to prepare for our flight up to the northwest. The flight was short and landed in Mahajanga without any glitch. We then made our way to the hotel for dinner, where we got an early night's rest in preparation for the following day's adventures.

Day 4: 9 October 2016

Bright and early we headed for the beach, where we hopped on board of a boat and made our way into the nearby Betsiboka Delta. Here we worked the muddy banks as the tide started to recede. Species came in slowly, such as **Malagasy Kingfisher**, **African Palm Swift**, **Dimorphic Egret**, **Lesser Flamingo**, and the localized **Bernier's Teal**. A large roosting flock of shorebirds, made up of **Common Ringed Plover**, **Greater Sand Plover**, **Common Sandpiper**, **Curlew Sandpiper**, **Whimbrel**, **Terek Sandpiper**, and at least four **Malagasy Sacred Ibis** put in an appearance not long thereafter. **Madagascan Harrier-Hawk** and **Madagascan Buzzard** joined **Yellow-billed Kite** overhead as we headed back.



White-breasted Mesite - *Mesitornis variegatus*

With the vehicle loaded we headed for Ankarafantsika National Park, adding **Pied Crow** and **Namaqua Dove** along the way. In the park itself a brief afternoon walk produced brown lemur, Coquerel's sifaka, and good numbers of birds, including **Crested Drongo**, **Rufous Vanga**, **Blue Vanga**, **Malagasy Bulbul**, **Long-billed Bernieria**, **Common Jery**, **Souimanga Sunbird**, **Greater Vasa Parrot**, **Madagascan Magpie-Robin**, **Crested**,

Coquerel's, and **Red-capped Couas**, the localized and hard-to-locate **Van Dam's Vanga**, fantastic views of **White-breasted Mesite**, **Rainforest Scops Owl**, **Madagascar Cuckooshrike**, and an unexpected find in the form of **Banded Kestrel**, to name but a few.

A brief night walk added grey-brown and golden-brown mouse lemurs, western fat-tailed dwarf lemur, a handful of Oustalet's chameleons, and a nocturnal snake. After dinner rhinoceros chameleon, mongoose lemur, and Milne-Edwards's sportive lemurs put in appearances.

Day 5: 10 October 2016

Caffeinated and lightly fed we headed for the primary forest of the northwest. It was heating up rapidly, but the birds were certainly active. **Coquerel's Coua** called incessantly, and we found **Malagasy Bulbul**, **Common Newtonia**, **Madagascar Buzzard**, **Lesser Vasa Parrot**, **Madagascar Magpie-Robin**, **Long-billed Bernieria**, a variety of color variations of **Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher**, **Hook-billed Vanga**, **Blue Vanga**, and **Madagascar Cuckooshrike** and had great views of a few male **Schlegel's Asities**, whose colorful caruncles were glowing brilliantly in the morning light. While returning for a full breakfast **Grey-headed Lovebird** and **Broad-billed Roller** were added, and a drive out of town to a nearby lake produced **Black-winged Stilt**, **Glossy Ibis**, **Yellow-billed Kite**, **Striated Heron**, **African Palm Swift**, **Pied Crow**, and a handful of **Madagascar Jacana**.



Schlegel's Asity - *Philepitta schlegeli*

Later in the afternoon a short boat trip around another lake had us enjoying Nile crocodile, **Squacco Heron**, **Black-crowned Night Heron**, **Striated Heron**, **Western Cattle Egret**, **Dimorphic Egret**, **Three-banded Plover**, **Purple Heron**, countless obliging **Malagasy**

Kingfishers, a couple of **Madagascan Green Pigeons**, **Malagasy Coucal**, and a pair of the sought-after **Madagascan Fish Eagles**, which are resident on this body of water. Back in camp **White-headed Vanga** and **Frances's Sparrowhawk** gave us a show as well as Milne-Edwards's sportive lemur, mongoose lemur, and a half dozen Oustalet's chameleons in the evening.

Day 6: 11 October 2016

Following in yesterday's footsteps after an early light breakfast we set out for a morning walk. Along the way we bumped into **Malagasy Turtle Dove**, **Madagascan Buzzard**, **Frances's Sparrowhawk** hunting large ground crickets, **Malagasy Coucal**, **Crested Drongo**, **Lesser Vasa Parrot**, **Grey-headed Lovebird**, **Long-billed Bernieria**, **Malagasy Bulbul**, **Souimanga Sunbird**, and **Coquerel's Coua**. Deeper in the forest **White-breasted Mesites** were found at least three times, while **Red-capped** and **Crested Couas** also came in to visit. **Madagascan Magpie-Robins** were in every tree, and a small little forest jewel, **Madagascan Pygmy Kingfisher**, gave us extended looks from all angles. **Van Dam's Vangas** were very vocal, and a Malagasy giant hognose snake allowed close-up views while sunning itself in the leaf litter before we sat down for a more fulfilling breakfast.

A quick roundtrip to the outskirts of the park and back added new species such as **African Pygmy Goose**, **Sakalava Weaver** in full breeding dress, and a number of male **Malagasy Green Sunbirds**. We then packed the vehicle, settled down for lunch, and afterwards made the journey back to the airport to catch our early evening flight to the capital. Here **Broad-billed Roller**, **Sickle-billed Vanga**, and **Madagascan Cuckooshrike**, as well as many others put in their last appearances before we moved off, picking up a flock of **Madagascan Sandgrouse** over the national road toward the airport.

Day 7: 12 October 2016

A rescheduling of our flight, commonplace in Madagascar, meant a very early start to pick up our morning flight. **Madagascan Nightjars** bid us farewell in the car park as we headed to the airport. **Mascarene Martins** hawked over the airstrip before we commenced our flight to the northeast of the island. Madagascar's largest national park, Masoala, comprising 240 000 hectares of pristine rainforest, was our destination. Crossing to the peninsula proved a little tricky with large swells and occasional rain, but we made it to shore safely, with **Common Tern**, **Grey Plover**, and **Whimbrel** on the list. **Malagasy Green Sunbird** greeted us for lunch, while a brief afternoon walk to get the lay of the land rewarded us with **Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher**, **Spectacled Tetraka** on the nest, a trio of **Madagascan Wood Rails** feeding on the forest floor, **Hook-billed Vanga** collecting caterpillars, **Lesser Vasa Parrot**, **African Palm Swift**, a most-obliging **Red-breasted Coua**, and a pair of their **Blue Coua** cousins. Making our way back to watch the sunset on the beach we struck gold as a **Short-legged Ground Roller** alerted us to its presence with an alarm call. It then proceeded to give us a lengthy view from all angles, while calling to a responsive second bird just down the stream. Dinner was had to the sound of crashing waves, with lined day geckos and fish-scale geckos adding to the ambiance.



Short-legged Ground Roller - *Brachypteracias leptosomus*

Day 8: 13 October 2016

After enjoying a little bit of a sleep-in and a later than usual breakfast to the sound of crashing waves, the group headed for the forested hills. Taking the beach route we picked up **Nelicourvi Weaver**, **Malagasy Green Sunbird**, **Madagascan Green Pigeon**, and a pair of **Blue Coua**. Working our way up the moist internal slopes we picked up eastern red forest rat, **Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher**, **Spectacled Tetraka**, **Long-billed Bernieria**, **Blue Vanga**, **Lesser Vasa Parrot**, **Common Newtonia**, **Madagascan Magpie-Robin**, and **Malagasy Turtle Dove**. Quite soon into the walk a pair of what must rank as the highlight of the national park alighted in the trees above our heads: **Helmet Vanga** in all its blue, black, and brown beauty was firmly on the list. We opted to push on after this and picked up a well-camouflaged **Scaly Ground Roller** before bumping into two groups of red ruffed lemurs and a family group of white-fronted lemurs before returning for lunch.



Helmet Vanga - *Euryceros prevostii*

The humidity had certainly increased, and so we decided to start later in the afternoon, once the forest had cooled a little. Many of us took the opportunity to swim in the warm Indian Ocean, perhaps an even drier option than walking in the forest at the current time. The forest was revisited later and, although rather devoid of birdlife, produced great views of **Red-breasted Coua** and then the most splendid views of a pair of **Helmet Vangas** hunting low down near the canopy floor, their yellow eyes piercing through the forest as well as into our camera lenses. Dodging the humidity failed, and drenched to the bone we returned to camp to clean up and prepare for dinner.



Scaly-ground Roller - *Geobiastes squamiger*

Day 9: 14 October 2016

After breakfast a quick boat ride to a nearby forest had us viewing **Malagasy Kestrel**, **Crested Drongo**, **Madagascar Blue Pigeon**, **Blue Coua**, **Madagascar Spinetail**, **African Palm Swift** on a nest in the fronds of a traveller's palm, and perhaps the most sought-after species in the area, a female **Bernier's Vanga**. A pair of **Scaly Ground Rollers** showed well, as did **White-throated Rail**. A quick visit to the local tern roost added **Roseate**, **Common**, **Lesser Crested**, and **Greater Crested Terns** and both **Brown** and **Lesser Noddy** before we headed back for lunch. An afternoon hike, set aside for covering lots of ground and exploring new sections of the forest, was well worth the effort, as we picked up a pair of **Madagascar Ibis** skulking on the forest floor. **Red-breasted Coua**, **Madagascar Pygmy Kingfisher**, **Red-fronted Coua**, and splendid views of the unusual **Nuthatch Vanga** working its way characteristically up the tree trunks were noteworthy sightings out of a myriad of more common forest species.

A brief night walk along the beach had us enjoying **Rainforest Scops Owls** calling around us; a bird perched low down over a walkway, giving fantastic views. Mascarene grass frog, fish-scale gecko, panther chameleon, and a roosting **Madagascar Pygmy Kingfisher** were added, while we also had great views of acrobatic eastern lesser bamboo lemur, **Madagascar Pratincole**, Madagascar tree boa, and rufous mouse lemur up close before sitting down for dinner and then a good night's rest.



Lesser Noddy - *Anous tenuirostris*

Day 10: 15 October 2016

Our final morning on the peninsula involved breakfast, followed by the boarding of a boat, in which we then headed off in the direction of Nosy Mangabe. This island, situated in the middle of Antongil Bay, hosted **Malagasy Coucal** and **Malagasy Bulbul** and gave us splendid views of a white-morph **Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher** feeding three chicks on a nest over a stream. White-fronted brown lemurs entertained us, as did a number of orb web spiders and the main target here, the unique and exceptional well-camouflaged common flat-tail gecko. We then hopped back on the boat and headed for the mainland, where we were shuttled to the airport to await our return flight to Antananarivo, where we arrived rather late due to the weather delaying our landing.

Day 11: 16 October 2016

Heading north of the capital we were set to visit one of Madagascar's unique rainforest systems, the Anjozorobe Forest Corridor, a 90-kilometer drive from Antananarivo. En route we saw **Dimorphic Egret**, **Black** and **Squacco Herons**, **Yellow-billed Kite**, and **Common Myna**. Arriving at the hotel we settled for lunch on the well-situated deck overlooking an active **Hamerkop** nest. In the afternoon **Henst's Goshawk** put on a great aerial display. Deeper in the forest we found **Red-fronted Coua**, **Cuckoo Roller**, **Velvet Asity**, **Rand's Warbler**, **Madagascan Stonechat**, **Forest Rock Thrush**, **Malagasy White-eye**, **Crested Drongo**, and a number of others. Two highlights, however, must certainly be mentioned, namely mind-boggling views of both **Pitta-like** and **Rufous-headed Ground Rollers** as they called within meters of us on the open, leaf-littered floor.

In the evening a night walk produced Geoffroy's dwarf lemur, eastern woolly lemur, Madagascan bright-eyed frog, and a couple of nose-horned and warty chameleons.



Rufous-headed Ground Roller - *Atelornis crossleyi*



Madagascar bright-eyed frog - *Boophis madagascariensis*

Day 12: 17 October 2016

This morning's brief walk along some familiar trails produced a few common species such as **Malagasy Bulbul**, **Lesser Vasa Parrot**, **Common Newtonia**, **Long-billed Bernieria**, **Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher**, **Malagasy White-eye**, and a calling **Madagascan Flufftail** in the undergrowth. **Red-capped Coua** put on a great display for us, but was quickly outshone by a **Henst's Goshawk** that was somewhat perturbed by our presence and paid us a

few visits in the canopy while making it rather clear vocally that it was time for us to leave. Leave we did, picking up **Rand's Warbler**, **Nelicourvi Weaver**, and **Hamerkop** on the way out of the forest. After a healthy lunch, where we added **Green Jery** and had a brilliant display by an **African Harrier-Hawk** being mobbed by a pair of **Crested Drongos**, we headed back to Antananarivo, where the new members of the group were met at dinner. Tomorrow was the start of the main tour, and a good night's rest was in order.

Day 13: 18 October 2016

Wiggling our way through the capital's morning traffic we headed east. **Squacco Heron** and **Dimorphic Egret** fed in the rice paddies, while **Common Myna**, **Little Swift**, and **Madagascan Wagtail** were seen commencing daily routines in the city. A brief stop over a large river system did not turn up Madagascan Pratincole, but **Malagasy Kestrel** and **Chabert Vanga** were noteworthy substitutes. Arriving at our lodge after eyeballing **Madagascan Blue Pigeons** at lunch we were greeted by **Malagasy White-eye**, **Chabert Vanga**, **Madagascan Magpie-Robin**, and **Green Jery**. Entering the secondary forest not long after lunch we quickly picked up the likes of brown lemur and eastern lesser bamboo lemur as well as the enigmatic indri, the largest of the lemurs. Birds included **Forest** and **Red Fodies**, a pair of roosting **Rainforest Scops Owls**, **Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher**, **Nuthatch Vanga**, **Red-tailed Vanga**, **Long-billed Bernieria**, **Malagasy Green Sunbird**, the most memorable views of the unique **Collared Nightjar**, and an exquisite **Madagascan Owl**.

A brief night walk turned up the diminutive nose-horned chameleon, Glaw's short-nosed chameleon, green bright-eyed frog, Geoffroy's dwarf lemur, and Goodman's mouse lemur, as well as a number of interesting arachnids and insects.



Collared Nightjar - *Gactornis enarratus*

Day 14: 19 October 2016

This morning we started early with a rough drive into Mantadia National Park, boasting a large percentage of the primary forest in the area. The road turned up **Common Myna**, **Madagascar Stonechat**, **Rand's Warbler**, **Green Jery**, **Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher**, **Velvet Asity**, and a few others, while within the forest itself we enjoyed the likes of **Tylas** and **White-headed Vangas**, **Madagascar Magpie-Robin**, **Nelicourvi Weaver**, **Lesser Vasa Parrot**, and personal favorites in the form of **Scaly Ground Roller** and the unique **Short-legged Ground Roller** perched motionless high up in the canopy. Brown lemur, eastern bamboo lemur, black-and-white ruffed lemur, and the gorgeous diademed sifaka all put in an appearance, with indri calling out in the background throughout the walk.

We then settled down for lunch at a small lake, which produced great views of **Stripe-throated Jery**, **Madagascar Buzzard**, **Malagasy Starling**, **Madagascar Blue Pigeon**, **Madagascar Spinetail**, **Madagascar Stonechat**, **Madagascar Wagtail**, **Common Moorhen**, a pair of **Meller's Ducks**, **Madagascar Swamp Warbler**, and a flock of the tiny **Madagascar Mannikins**, among others. Returning to our hotel we added **Olive Bee-eater** and heard a number of **Madagascar Flufftails**, with some of us getting brief views of the little skulkers.



Velvet Asity - *Philepitta castanea*

Day 15: 20 October 2016

In the morning we ventured into the secondary forest once again, with brown lemur, Diademed sifaka, and eastern bamboo lemur all showing well. Up on higher grounds we located a group of indri and stood awestruck as they vocalized above our heads for some time. **Velvet Asity**, **Lesser Vasa Parrot**, **Forest Fody**, **Blue Coua**, and **Ward's Flycatcher** put up a show, and the unique and bizarre giraffe weevil also had us astonished for a while.

In the late afternoon, once the heat had settled, we visited the local lemur rehabilitation center. Here we had close encounters with eastern bamboo lemur, black-and-white ruffed lemur, and brown and red-fronted brown lemurs. This was a hands-on experience that I am sure no one will forget in a hurry, the smiles still etched into everyone's faces hours after the visit. Birding was not the focus as this time, but we did get **Chabert Vanga** mobbing a **Frances's Sparrowhawk** and beautiful views of a pair of skulking **Madagascan Rails**. A short night walk was conducted, where Geoffroy's dwarf lemur and Goodman's mouse lemur were enjoyed, as well as Glaw's short-nosed and nose-horned chameleons, of which we managed to locate a small number before heading back for dinner.



Giraffe weevil - *Trachelophorus giraffa*

Day 16: 21 October 2016

This morning we had the opportunity to sleep in a little, as today served as a travel day. After a late breakfast we loaded the vehicle and headed west toward Antsirabe. Along the way we made a brief stop to enjoy the presence of a single **Madagascan Pratincole** before stopping for lunch outside of the city at a restaurant overlooking a small stream. Here we picked up **Malagasy White-eye**, **Red Fody**, **Common Myna**, **Madagascan Swamp Warbler**, **Malagasy Green Sunbird**, and **Madagascan Wagtail** in the vicinity before heading off on our journey south. A brief stop was had to visit the banks and local pharmacies to replenish supplies before we settled down for a fantastic spread for dinner while completing the checklists.

Day 17: 22 October 2016

Leaving Antsirabe after a late breakfast a quick stop was made in the local workshops to get a first-hand experience as to how Zebu (cattle) horn implements and jewelry were made as well

as trinkets from recycled tin. We then continued south, stopping off for a welcoming lunch before reaching Ranomafana National Park in the afternoon.

Day 18: 23 October 2016

A brief breakfast followed by a quick drive had us in the secondary forest not long after sunrise. Golden bamboo lemur, one of this national park's main drawing cards, was first on our list, and red-fronted brown lemur was added not long afterwards. The birding was also great, and we had brilliant views of **Pitta-like** and **Scaly Ground Rollers**, **Velvet Asity**, **Rufous Vanga**, and **Crossley's Vanga**, while **White-throated Oxylabes** played hide-and-seek with us and we picked up many other common forest species. **Pollen's Vanga** showed early in the morning, and **Malagasy Green Sunbird** and **Grey-crowned Tetraka** showed nicely. A lookout point produced a pair of the elusive ring-tailed vonsira (mongoose), while a little while later a pair of **Brown Mesite** was located and enjoyed by all before we headed for lunch.



Red-fronted brown lemur - *Eulemur rufifrons*



Pitta-like Ground Roller - *Atelornis pittoides*

In the afternoon we visited some nearby rice paddies, where we enjoyed a flock of tiny **Madagascan Mannikins**, **Mascarene Martin**, **Malagasy Coucal**, **Madagascan Harrier-Hawk**, **Madagascan Flufftail**, **Malagasy Brush Warbler**, **Madagascan Cisticola**, **Madagascan Stonechat**, **Hamerkop**, **Purple Heron**, and two avian treats in the form of **Madagascan Snipe** and **Greater Painted-snipe**. We then commenced a night walk in the area, which produced wonderful rufous mouse lemurs, combating male red brook snakes, and Geoffroy's dwarf lemur among other herpetofauna before we had to leave to meet dinner reservations.

Day 19: 24 October 2016

Our second and final full day in Ranomafana was one to remember. Winding up the hill to our starting point we added **Yellow-billed Kite**, **Madagascan Buzzard**, **Madagascan Blue Pigeon**, **Lesser Vasa Parrot**, **African Palm Swift**, **Olive Bee-eater**, and **Cuckoo Roller**. Inside the forest itself we quickly looked onto **Red-fronted** and **Blue Couas** and **Madagascan Cuckoo**, and after climbing to the highest point we were rewarded with great views of both **Yellow-bellied** and **Common Sunbird-Asities**. These are spectacular little birds that rocket through the canopies but occasionally allow one to soak up their brightly colored caruncles and delicate physique. Other species included **Madagascan Cuckooshrike**, **Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher**, **Mascarene Martin**, **Grey-crowned Tetraka**, **Dark Newtonia**, **Cryptic Warbler**, **Forest Rock Thrush**, **Green Jery**, **Stripe-throated Jery**, **Common Jery**, **White-throated Oxylabes**, **Crossley's Vanga**, and the splendid **Pollen's Vanga**. Mammals included brown lemur, small-toothed sportive lemur, Milne-Edwards's sifaka, and ring-tailed vontsira.

A night walk along the famous road down into the town of Ranomafana added short-nosed, nose-horned, cryptic, and O'Shaughnessy's chameleons and a chorus of frogs of the genus *Boophis*.

Day 20: 25 October 2016

Winding our way out of Ranomafana we commenced our journey south. This was a travel day through the eastern plateaus, where we enjoyed great vistas and birds such as **Dimorphic Egret**, **Western Cattle Egret**, **Madagascan Lark**, **Malagasy Cisticola**, **Common Myna**, **Pied Crow**, **Yellow-billed Kite**, and a surprise in the form of **Marsh Owl**, which circled above us for some time, and then **Malagasy Harrier** not far off down the road. This uncommon species occurring in low density was a pleasant addition. We then continued to Isalo National Park, where we were met with splendid accommodation and rather foul weather. A fitting dinner was had after a long day's drive; an exploratory walk of the area would have to wait until tomorrow.

Day 21: 26 October 2016

A sunrise stroll around the sandstone formations prior to breakfast produced **Madagascan Mannikin**, **Pied Crow**, countless **Yellow-billed Kites**, **Namaqua Dove**, **Olive Bee-eater**, **Malagasy Coucal**, **Common Jery**, **Madagascan Hoopoe**, an obliging **White-throated Rail** in a nearby stream, and a very vocal southern and interior subspecies of **Forest Rock Thrush** (occasionally split as Benson's Rock Thrush). We then hit the road and traveled south, but not for long, as an overheating engine had us temporarily on the roadside.



Giant Coua - *Coua gigas*

Back on track with a new vehicle we entered Zombitse Forest, where we enjoyed Verreaux's sifaka and Hubbard's sportive lemur. Standing's day gecko and three-eyed lizard showed well, while birds such as **Cuckoo Roller**, **Crested Drongo**, **Common Jery**, **Long-billed Bernieria**, **Souimanga Sunbird**, **Red-tailed Vanga**, **Coquerel's Coua**, and many others put in an appearance, a highlight being a pair of the localized **Appert's Tetraka**, which performed well for us. Lunch produced a nosy trio of **Giant Coua** and a roosting **White-browed Hawk-Owl**, while the following drive to Ifaty added **Black-winged Stilt** and one powerful hailstorm.

Day 22: 27 October 2016

Due to the nature of the area the spiny deserts of Ifaty are unbearable after mid morning. To beat the sun's rays we were at the park well before sunrise. This worked in our favor, as active birds were quickly added to our list. We encountered **Thamnornis**, **Running**, **Crested**, and **Red-capped Couas**, **Madagascar Magpie-Robin**, **Red Fody**, **Sakalava Weaver**, **Malagasy Turtle Dove**, **Crested Drongo**, **Common** and **Archbold's Newtonias**, **Common Jery**, **Stripe-throated Jery**, **Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher**, **Namaqua Dove**, **Greater Vasa Parrot**, **Grey-headed Lovebird**, and many others. More charismatic species included **Hook-billed Vanga**, **Sickle-billed Vanga**, **Madagascar Sparrowhawk**, **Madagascar Harrier-Hawk**, and the extraordinary **Long-tailed Ground Roller** and **Subdesert Mesite**, while a potentially undescribed species of sportive lemur was also located.

During the course of the afternoon, which we thankfully had off due to a successful clean sweep in the morning, we enjoyed the pool and warm Indian Ocean. Birding around the lodge grounds produced **Madagascar Magpie-Robin**, **Common Myna**, **Madagascar Mannikin**, **Red Fody**, **Olive Bee-eater**, **Pied Crow**, **Malagasy Bulbul**, **Sakalava Weaver**, and a number of others. The evening chorus of **Madagascar Nightjars** went on through dinner and well into the night.

Day 23: 28 October 2016

Fairly eagerly this morning we left Ifaty and headed back towards Toliara. Here we hopped onto rustic Zebu (cattle) carts and made our way across the **Whimbrel**-infested mudflats to our boat. An hour and a half later and we were on the beaches of the island of Nosy Ve, ogling **Lesser Crested**, **Saunders's**, and **Common Terns** among **Sanderlings**. Over the next sandbar we added **Dimorphic Egret**, **Grey Heron**, **White-fronted Plover**, and a flock of half a dozen of the unique **Crab-plover**. These shy birds took flight not long after, and we headed onward to spend time with a breeding flock of **Red-tailed Tropicbirds** before crossing back to the mainland and enjoying the freshest of lunches in the presence of **Littoral Rock Thrush**.

We then started the motor and headed back to the harbor, where we enjoyed an afternoon off due to both the heat and the success of the morning's birding.



Crab-plover - *Dromas ardeola*

Day 24: 29 October 2016

Early in the morning, in an attempt to beat the heat, we set off to the spiny plateau located above Toliara. **Yellow-billed Kites** scoured the roads all the way there, as **Namaqua Dove** and **Madagascan Lark** flushed off the verges. **Madagascan Buzzards** caught thermals overhead, while we also picked up **Grey-headed Lovebird**, **Malagasy Coucal**, the localized **Verreaux's Coua**, **Red-shouldered Vanga**, and **Subdesert Brush Warbler** before lunch.

A visit to a decent-sized lake in the afternoon added **Hottentot Teal**, **Little Grebe**, **White-faced Whistling Duck**, **Western Cattle Egret**, **Squacco Heron**, an unexpected **Malagasy Harrier** quartering over the reeds, **Kittlitz's** and **Common Ringed Plovers**, **Black-winged Stilt**, **Common Greenshank**, **Curlew Sandpiper**, **African Swamphen**, **Red-knobbed Coot**, **Malagasy Kingfisher**, and a couple others before we made our way back for dinner and prepared for our return to the capital.

Day 25: 30 October 2016

A travel day by definition, we woke up to a fairly early breakfast before packing the vehicle to the sounds of the usual city birds and headed for the airport. Here we sat out the queues and eventually were up in the air, heading for Antananarivo. Coming to a rather abrupt stop on the runway, we transferred to the hotel, where we sat down for a wonderful Sunday buffet and spent the rest of the afternoon relaxing and preparing for our final leg of the journey, while others prepared themselves for their journeys homeward.

Day 26: 31 October 2016

The Berenty extension commenced this morning with our predawn arrival at the airport in Antananarivo. **Mascarene Martins** and **Olive Bee-eaters** sent us on our way as we headed for our transit flight, via Toliara, to Fort Dauphin. Soon we arrived at our hotel, where we spent the morning as well as lunch. During the cooler afternoon we went to explore the

famous town, where we located **Red Fody**, **Common Myna**, **Malagasy Kestrel**, and, while overlooking the ocean, a **Kelp Gull** or two (spilt occasionally as Madagascan Gull) as well as an unidentifiable frigatebird way out in the distance and a pair of **Whimbrel**. A few lakes produced **Common Sandpiper**, **Pied Crow**, **Malagasy Turtle Dove**, and a few others before we returned to the hotel in preparation for our journey to the legendary Berenty Reserve.

Day 27: 1 November 2016

This morning we lethargically stumbled out for a fairly late breakfast before hopping into our convoy of two vehicles (one set aside for our bodies, the other for our luggage). The road was short, but the ride was rough – road maintenance apparently last occurring at least half a century ago. Along the way we saw **Red Fody**, **Western Cattle Egret**, **Yellow-billed Kite**, **Hamerkop**, **Malagasy Kestrel**, **Pied Crow**, **Namaqua Dove**, and a few other usual roadside species.

After finally having arrived at Berenty Reserve, situated among the sisal plantations of the southwest, we picked up ring-tailed lemur and the famous dancing Verreaux's sifaka, which put on a wonderful cameo for us in late golden light. The walk itself added a beautiful jeweled chameleon, **Giant Coua**, **Helmeted Guineafowl**, **White-browed Hawk-Owl**, **Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher**, **Crested Drongo**, **Madagascan Magpie-Robin**, **Crested Coua**, **Malagasy White-eye**, **Malagasy Turtle Dove**, **Malagasy Coucal**, **Frances's Sparrowhawk**, and a really obscured view of **Madagascan Cuckoo-Hawk** sitting up high on top of its nest. White-footed sportive lemur eventually put in an appearance on the trip, and a night walk later in the evening yielded a few treats in the form of warty chameleon, more white-footed sportive lemur, grey-brown mouse lemur, and **Madagascan Nightjar**.



Madagascan Magpie-Robin - *Copsychus albospectus*

Day 28: 2 November 2016

A full day in Berenty sure was something to look forward to. The early morning walk produced **Giant Coua**, **Crested Coua**, a roosting pair of **Western Barn Owls**, a number of **White-browed Hawk-Owls**, **Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher**, **Crested Drongo**, **Pied Crow**, **Malagasy Kestrel**, **Yellow-billed** and **Black Kites**, **Madagascan Green Pigeon**, **Malagasy Turtle Dove**, **Common Jery**, **Lesser Vasa Parrot**, and few others. Mammals were abundant, and we enjoyed countless Verreaux's sifakas, ring-tailed and red-fronted brown lemurs, white-footed sportive lemur, and memorable views of a very active roost of Malagasy flying fox, the largest bat on the island.

In the afternoon a sortie into the sisal fields took place, where we after some time connected with a pair of fine-looking **Madagascan Sandgrouse** as well as a handful of **Madagascan Buttonquails**, two of our main targets. **Running Coua** and flocks of **Grey-headed Lovebird** also entertained. A night walk produced a trio of warty chameleons and a brilliant Madagascan tree boa hunting up in the canopy.



Verreaux's sifaka - *Propithecus verreauxi*

Day 29: 3 November 2016

Our final morning in the reserve was not to be wasted. After warding off the gangs of ring-tailed lemurs at breakfast we headed for the spiny forest. The unique botany had us enthralled for hours, while between the scratchy leaves we picked up **Running Coua**, **Lesser Vasa Parrot**, **Grey-headed Lovebird**, **Malagasy Kestrel**, **Pied Crow**, **Yellow-billed Kite**, **Madagascan Magpie-Robin**, and **Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher**, as well as a roosting **Rainforest Scops Owl** (of the western subspecies). Sleeping white-footed sportive lemurs added to the morning's cute factor, while back at camp we located warty chameleon and jeweled chameleon before staring aimlessly at the head of a **Madagascan Cuckoo-Hawk** peering at us from within its nest high in the canopy. **Frances's Sparrowhawk** was common,

and **Crested Coua** showed well before we spent a good portion of our walk watching a blonde hognose snake busily shedding its skin before vanishing down into the depths of an ant hole. After a fine lunch we bounced all the way back to Fort Dauphin, where the storms had arrived to welcome us. Dinner was soon followed by bed. Tomorrow would be in essence the last day of our trip together.

Day 30: 4 November 2016

Unfortunately, due to sudden flight changes we had a rather rushed morning, and a short-lived breakfast took place. We were then whipped across to the smallest of airports, where we awaited our flight to Antananarivo via Toliara. The only bird for the morning was a quartering **Yellow-billed Kite** over the myriads of rice paddies en route. Heading from the airport to the hotel the usual suspects such as **Squacco** and **Black Herons, Dimorphic Egret, Rock Dove, Common Myna, and Mascarene Martin** were seen along the way before we met for what constituted our 'Last Supper'.

Day 31: 5 November 2016

Breakfast was a lengthy one, as we reminisced over the last month spent on the island – the impressive bird list with 89 percent of all Madagascan endemics seen, the fantastic destinations we had the pleasure of visiting and the unique animals we got to appreciate in each of them, the cultural experience, and the good memories that were made along the way. Good-byes were made and contacts exchanged before we then parted ways.

| MADAGASCAR BIRD LIST OCTOBER 2016 | | |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Bold = country endemic Status: NT = Near-threatened, VU = Vulnerable, EN = Endangered, CR = Critically Endangered | | |
| Common Name (IOC 6.4) | Scientific Name (IOC 6.4) | Trip |
| | ANSERIFORMES | |
| Ducks, Geese and Swans | Anatidae | |
| White-faced Whistling Duck | <i>Dendrocygna viduata</i> | 1 |
| Fulvous Whistling Duck | <i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i> | 1 |
| Knob-billed Duck | <i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i> | 1 |
| African Pygmy Goose | <i>Nettapus auritus</i> | 1 |
| Meller's Duck - EN | <i>Anas melleri</i> | 1 |
| Bernier's Teal - EN | <i>Anas bernieri</i> | 1 |
| Red-billed Teal | <i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i> | 1 |
| Hottentot Teal | <i>Anas hottentota</i> | 1 |
| | GALLIFORMES | |
| Guineafowl | Numididae | |
| Helmeted Guineafowl | <i>Numida meleagris</i> | 1 |
| | PODICIPEDIFORMES | |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <u>Grebes</u> | <u>Podicipedidae</u> | |
| Little Grebe | <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Grebe - VU | <i>Tachybaptus pelzelni</i> | 1 |
| | PHOENICOPTERIFORMES | |
| <u>Flamingos</u> | <u>Phoenicopteridae</u> | |
| Lesser Flamingo - NT | <i>Phoeniconaias minor</i> | 1 |
| | PHAETHONTIFORMES | |
| <u>Tropicbirds</u> | <u>Phaethontidae</u> | |
| Red-tailed Tropicbird | <i>Phaethon rubricauda</i> | 1 |
| | PELECANIFORMES | |
| <u>Ibises, Spoonbills</u> | <u>Threskiornithidae</u> | |
| Malagasy Sacred Ibis - EN | <i>Threskiornis bernieri</i> | 1 |
| Glossy Ibis | <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Ibis - NT | <i>Lophotibis cristata</i> | 1 |
| <u>Hérons, Bitterns</u> | <u>Ardeidae</u> | |
| Black-crowned Night Heron | <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i> | 1 |
| Striated Heron | <i>Butorides striata</i> | 1 |
| Squacco Heron | <i>Ardeola ralloides</i> | 1 |
| Malagasy Pond Heron - EN | <i>Ardeola idae</i> | 1 |
| Western Cattle Egret | <i>Bubulcus ibis</i> | 1 |
| Grey Heron | <i>Ardea cinerea</i> | 1 |
| Purple Heron | <i>Ardea purpurea</i> | 1 |
| Great Egret | <i>Ardea alba</i> | 1 |
| Black Heron | <i>Egretta ardesiaca</i> | 1 |
| Dimorphic Egret | <i>Egretta dimorpha</i> | 1 |
| <u>Hamerkop</u> | <u>Scopidae</u> | |
| Hamerkop | <i>Scopus umbretta</i> | 1 |
| | ACCIPITRIFORMES | |
| <u>Kites, Hawks and Eagles</u> | <u>Accipitridae</u> | |
| Madagascan Harrier-Hawk | <i>Polyboroides radiatus</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Cuckoo-Hawk | <i>Aviceda madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Frances's Sparrowhawk | <i>Accipiter francesiae</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Sparrowhawk - NT | <i>Accipiter madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Henst's Goshawk - NT | <i>Accipiter henstii</i> | 1 |
| Malagasy Harrier - VU | <i>Circus macroscelus</i> | 1 |
| Black Kite | <i>Milvus migrans</i> | 1 |
| Yellow-billed Kite | <i>Milvus aegyptius</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Fish Eagle - CR | <i>Haliaeetus vociferoides</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Buzzard | <i>Buteo brachypterus</i> | 1 |
| | MESITORNITHIFORMES | |
| <u>Mesites</u> | <u>Mesitornithidae</u> | |
| White-breasted Mesite - VU | <i>Mesitornis variegatus</i> | 1 |

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|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| Brown Mesite - VU | <i>Mesitornis unicolor</i> | 1 |
| Subdesert Mesite - VU | <i>Monias benschi</i> | 1 |
| | GRUIFORMES | |
| <u>Flufftails</u> | <u>Sarothruridae</u> | |
| Madagascar Wood Rail | <i>Canirallus kiolooides</i> | 1 |
| Madagascar Flufftail | <i>Sarothrura insularis</i> | 1 |
| <u>Rails, Crakes and Coots</u> | <u>Rallidae</u> | |
| Madagascar Rail - VU | <i>Rallus madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| White-throated Rail | <i>Dryolimnas cuvieri</i> | 1 |
| African Swamphen | <i>Porphyrio madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Common Moorhen | <i>Gallinula chloropus</i> | 1 |
| Red-knobbed Coot | <i>Fulica cristata</i> | 1 |
| | CHARADRIIFORMES | |
| <u>Buttonquail</u> | <u>Turnicidae</u> | |
| Madagascar Buttonquail | <i>Turnix nigricollis</i> | 1 |
| <u>Crab-plover</u> | <u>Dromadidae</u> | |
| Crab-plover | <i>Dromas ardeola</i> | 1 |
| <u>Stilts, Avocets</u> | <u>Recurvirostridae</u> | |
| Black-winged Stilt | <i>Himantopus himantopus</i> | 1 |
| <u>Plovers</u> | <u>Charadriidae</u> | |
| Grey Plover | <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> | 1 |
| Common Ringed Plover | <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> | 1 |
| Madagascar Plover - VU | <i>Charadrius thoracicus</i> | 1 |
| Kittlitz's Plover | <i>Charadrius pecuarius</i> | 1 |
| Three-banded Plover | <i>Charadrius tricollaris</i> | 1 |
| White-fronted Plover | <i>Charadrius marginatus</i> | 1 |
| Greater Sand Plover | <i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i> | 1 |
| <u>Painted-snipes</u> | <u>Rostratulidae</u> | |
| Greater Painted-snipe | <i>Rostratula benghalensis</i> | 1 |
| <u>Jacanas</u> | <u>Jacaniidae</u> | |
| Madagascar Jacana - NT | <i>Actophilornis albinucha</i> | 1 |
| <u>Sandpipers, Snipes</u> | <u>Scolopacidae</u> | |
| Madagascar Snipe - VU | <i>Gallinago macrodactyla</i> | 1 |
| Whimbrel | <i>Numenius phaeopus</i> | 1 |
| Common Greenshank | <i>Tringa nebularia</i> | 1 |
| Terek Sandpiper | <i>Xenus cinereus</i> | 1 |
| Common Sandpiper | <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i> | 1 |
| Sanderling | <i>Calidris alba</i> | 1 |
| Curlew Sandpiper - NT | <i>Calidris ferruginea</i> | 1 |
| <u>Courasers, Pratincoles</u> | <u>Glareolidae</u> | |
| Madagascar Pratincole - VU | <i>Glareola ocularis</i> | 1 |
| <u>Gulls, Terns and Skimmers</u> | <u>Laridae</u> | |

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|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| Brown Noddy | <i>Anous stolidus</i> | 1 |
| Lesser Noddy | <i>Anous tenuirostris</i> | 1 |
| Kelp Gull | <i>Larus dominicanus</i> | 1 |
| Greater Crested Tern | <i>Thalasseus bergii</i> | 1 |
| Lesser Crested Tern | <i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i> | 1 |
| Saunders's Tern | <i>Sternula saundersi</i> | 1 |
| Roseate Tern | <i>Sterna dougallii</i> | 1 |
| Common Tern | <i>Sterna hirundo</i> | 1 |
| | PTEROCLIFORMES | |
| Sandgrouse | Pteroclididae | |
| Madagascan Sandgrouse | <i>Pterocles personatus</i> | 1 |
| | COLUMBIFORMES | |
| Pigeons, Doves | Columbidae | |
| Rock Dove | <i>Columba livia</i> | 1 |
| Malagasy Turtle Dove | <i>Nesoenas picturatus</i> | 1 |
| Namaqua Dove | <i>Oena capensis</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Green Pigeon | <i>Treron australis</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Blue Pigeon | <i>Alectroenas madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| | CUCULIFORMES | |
| Cuckoos | Cuculidae | |
| Malagasy Coucal | <i>Centropus toulou</i> | 1 |
| Crested Coua | <i>Coua cristata</i> | 1 |
| Verreaux's Coua - NT | <i>Coua verreauxi</i> | 1 |
| Blue Coua | <i>Coua caerulea</i> | 1 |
| Red-capped Coua | <i>Coua ruficeps</i> | 1 |
| Red-fronted Coua | <i>Coua reynaudii</i> | 1 |
| Coquerel's Coua | <i>Coua coquereli</i> | 1 |
| Running Coua | <i>Coua cursor</i> | 1 |
| Giant Coua | <i>Coua gigas</i> | 1 |
| Red-breasted Coua | <i>Coua serriana</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Cuckoo | <i>Cuculus rochii</i> | 1 |
| | STRIGIFORMES | |
| Barn Owls | Tytonidae | |
| Western Barn Owl | <i>Tyto alba</i> | 1 |
| Owls | Strigidae | |
| Torotoroka Scops Owl | <i>Otus madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Rainforest Scops Owl | <i>Otus rutilus</i> | 1 |
| White-browed Hawk-Owl | <i>Ninox superciliaris</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Owl | <i>Asio madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Marsh Owl | <i>Asio capensis</i> | 1 |
| | CAPRIMULGIFORMES | |
| Nightjars | Caprimulgidae | |

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|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| Collared Nightjar | <i>Gactornis enarratus</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Nightjar | <i>Caprimulgus madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| | APODIFORMES | |
| Swifts | Apodidae | |
| Madagascan Spinetail | <i>Zoonavena grandidieri</i> | 1 |
| African Palm Swift | <i>Cypsiurus parvus</i> | 1 |
| Malagasy Black Swift | <i>Apus balstoni</i> | 1 |
| Little Swift | <i>Apus affinis</i> | 1 |
| | LEPTOSOMIFORMES | |
| Cuckoo Roller | Leptosomidae | |
| Cuckoo Roller | <i>Leptosomus discolor</i> | 1 |
| | CORACIIFORMES | |
| Rollers | Coraciidae | |
| Broad-billed Roller | <i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i> | 1 |
| Ground Rollers | Brachypteraciidae | |
| Short-legged Ground Roller - VU | <i>Brachypteracias leptosomus</i> | 1 |
| Scaly Ground Roller - VU | <i>Geobiastes squamiger</i> | 1 |
| Pitta-like Ground Roller | <i>Atelornis pittoides</i> | 1 |
| Rufous-headed Ground Roller - NT | <i>Atelornis crossleyi</i> | 1 |
| Long-tailed Ground Roller - VU | <i>Uratelornis chimaera</i> | 1 |
| Kingfishers | Alcedinidae | |
| Madagascan Pygmy Kingfisher | <i>Corythornis madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Malagasy Kingfisher | <i>Corythornis vintsioides</i> | 1 |
| Bee-eaters | Meropidae | |
| Olive Bee-eater | <i>Merops superciliosus</i> | 1 |
| | BUCEROTIFORMES | |
| Hoopoes | Upupidae | |
| Madagascan Hoopoe | <i>Upupa marginata</i> | 1 |
| | FALCONIFORMES | |
| Caracaras, Falcons | Falconidae | |
| Malagasy Kestrel | <i>Falco newtoni</i> | 1 |
| Banded Kestrel | <i>Falco zoniventris</i> | 1 |
| | PSITTACIFORMES | |
| Old World Parrots | Psittaculidae | |
| Greater Vasa Parrot | <i>Coracopsis vasa</i> | 1 |
| Lesser Vasa Parrot | <i>Coracopsis nigra</i> | 1 |
| Grey-headed Lovebird | <i>Agapornis canus</i> | 1 |
| | PASSERIFORMES | |
| Broadbills | Eurylaimidae | |
| Velvet Asity | <i>Philepitta castanea</i> | 1 |
| Schlegel's Asity - NT | <i>Philepitta schlegeli</i> | 1 |
| Common Sunbird-Asity | <i>Neodrepanis coruscans</i> | 1 |

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| Yellow-bellied Sunbird-Asity - VU | <i>Neodrepanis hypoxantha</i> | 1 |
| <u>Vangas</u> | <u>Vangidae</u> | |
| Red-tailed Vanga | <i>Calicalicus madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Red-shouldered Vanga - VU | <i>Calicalicus rufocarpalis</i> | 1 |
| Hook-billed Vanga | <i>Vanga curvirostris</i> | 1 |
| Bernier's Vanga - VU | <i>Oriolia bernieri</i> | 1 |
| Lafresnaye's Vanga | <i>Xenopirostris xenopirostris</i> | 1 |
| Van Dam's Vanga - EN | <i>Xenopirostris damii</i> | 1 |
| Pollen's Vanga - NT | <i>Xenopirostris polleni</i> | 1 |
| Sickle-billed Vanga | <i>Falcula palliata</i> | 1 |
| White-headed Vanga | <i>Artamella viridis</i> | 1 |
| Chabert Vanga | <i>Leptopterus chabert</i> | 1 |
| Blue Vanga | <i>Cyanolanius madagascarinus</i> | 1 |
| Rufous Vanga | <i>Schetba rufa</i> | 1 |
| Helmet Vanga - VU | <i>Euryceros prevostii</i> | 1 |
| Tylas Vanga | <i>Tylas eduardi</i> | 1 |
| Nuthatch Vanga | <i>Hypositta corallirostris</i> | 1 |
| Dark Newtonia | <i>Newtonia amphichroa</i> | 1 |
| Common Newtonia | <i>Newtonia brunneicauda</i> | 1 |
| Archbold's Newtonia | <i>Newtonia archboldi</i> | 1 |
| Ward's Flycatcher | <i>Pseudobias wardi</i> | 1 |
| Crossley's Vanga | <i>Mystacornis crossleyi</i> | 1 |
| <u>Cuckooshrikes</u> | <u>Campephagidae</u> | |
| Madagascan Cuckooshrike | <i>Coracina cinerea</i> | 1 |
| <u>Drongos</u> | <u>Dicruridae</u> | |
| Crested Drongo | <i>Dicrurus forficatus</i> | 1 |
| <u>Monarchs</u> | <u>Monarchidae</u> | |
| Malagasy Paradise Flycatcher | <i>Terpsiphone mutata</i> | 1 |
| <u>Crows, Jays</u> | <u>Corvidae</u> | |
| Pied Crow | <i>Corvus albus</i> | 1 |
| <u>Larks</u> | <u>Alaudidae</u> | |
| Madagascan Lark | <i>Eremopterix hova</i> | 1 |
| <u>Bulbuls</u> | <u>Pycnonotidae</u> | |
| Malagasy Bulbul | <i>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| <u>Swallows, Martins</u> | <u>Hirundinidae</u> | |
| Mascarene Martin | <i>Phedina borbonica</i> | 1 |
| <u>Reed Warblers and allies</u> | <u>Acrocephalidae</u> | |
| Malagasy Brush Warbler | <i>Nesillas typica</i> | 1 |
| Subdesert Brush Warbler | <i>Nesillas lantzii</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Swamp Warbler | <i>Acrocephalus newtoni</i> | 1 |
| <u>Grassbirds and allies</u> | <u>Locustellidae</u> | |
| Brown Emutail | <i>Bradypterus brunneus</i> | 1 |

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|--|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Malagasy Warblers | Bernieridae | |
| White-throated Oxylabes | <i>Oxylabes madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Long-billed Bernieria | <i>Bernieria madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Cryptic Warbler | <i>Cryptosylvicola randrianasoloi</i> | 1 |
| Wedge-tailed Jery - NT | <i>Hartertula flavoviridis</i> | 1 |
| Thamnornis | <i>Thamnornis chloropetoides</i> | 1 |
| Spectacled Tetraka | <i>Xanthomixis zosterops</i> | 1 |
| Appert's Tetraka - VU | <i>Xanthomixis apperti</i> | 1 |
| Grey-crowned Tetraka - NT | <i>Xanthomixis cinereiceps</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Yellowbrow - NT | <i>Crossleyia xanthophrys</i> | 1 |
| Rand's Warbler | <i>Randia pseudozosterops</i> | 1 |
| Cisticolas and allies | Cisticolidae | |
| Common Jery | <i>Neomixis tenella</i> | 1 |
| Green Jery | <i>Neomixis viridis</i> | 1 |
| Stripe-throated Jery | <i>Neomixis striatigula</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Cisticola | <i>Cisticola cherina</i> | 1 |
| White-eyes | Zosteropidae | |
| Malagasy White-eye | <i>Zosterops maderaspatanus</i> | 1 |
| Starlings, Rhabdornis | Sturnidae | |
| Common Myna | <i>Acridotheres tristis</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Starling | <i>Hartlaubius auratus</i> | 1 |
| Chats, Old World Flycatchers | Muscicapidae | |
| Madagascan Magpie-Robin | <i>Copsychus albospecularis</i> | 1 |
| Littoral Rock Thrush | <i>Monticola imerina</i> | 1 |
| Forest Rock Thrush | <i>Monticola sharpei</i> | 1 |
| Madagascan Stonechat | <i>Saxicola sibilla</i> | 1 |
| Sunbirds | Nectariniidae | |
| Souimanga Sunbird | <i>Cinnyris sovimanga</i> | 1 |
| Malagasy Green Sunbird | <i>Cinnyris notatus</i> | 1 |
| Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches | Passeridae | |
| House Sparrow | <i>Passer domesticus</i> | 1 |
| Weavers, Widowbirds | Ploceidae | |
| Nelicourvi Weaver | <i>Ploceus nelicourvi</i> | 1 |
| Sakalava Weaver | <i>Ploceus sakalava</i> | 1 |
| Red Fody | <i>Foudia madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Forest Fody | <i>Foudia omissa</i> | 1 |
| Waxbills, Munias and allies | Estrildidae | |
| Madagascan Mannikin | <i>Lepidopygia nana</i> | 1 |
| Wagtails, Pipits | Motacillidae | |
| Madagascan Wagtail | <i>Motacilla flaviventris</i> | 1 |
| TOTAL | | 185 |

| MADAGASCAR MAMMAL LIST OCTOBER 2016 | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Common Name IUCN | Scientific Name IUCN | Trip |
| | CHIROPTERA | |
| | Pteropodidae | |
| Madagascan flying fox | <i>Pteropus rufus</i> | 1 |
| | PRIMATES | |
| | Cheirogaleidae | |
| Grey mouse lemur | <i>Microcebus murinus</i> | 1 |
| Rufous mouse lemur | <i>Microcebus rufus</i> | 1 |
| Grey-brown mouse lemur | <i>Microcebus griseorufus</i> | 1 |
| Golden-brown mouse lemur | <i>Microcebus ravelobensis</i> | 1 |
| Goodman's mouse lemur | <i>Microcebus lehilahytsara</i> | 1 |
| Western fat-tailed dwarf lemur | <i>Cheirogaleus medius</i> | 1 |
| Geoffroy's dwarf lemur | <i>Cheirogaleus major</i> | 1 |
| | Lepilemuridae | |
| White-footed sportive lemur | <i>Lepilemur leucopus</i> | 1 |
| Milne-Edwards's sportive lemur | <i>Lepilemur edwardsi</i> | 1 |
| Hubbard's sportive lemur | <i>Lepilemur hubbardorum</i> | 1 |
| Small-toothed sportive lemur | <i>Lepilemur microdon</i> | 1 |
| "Unidentified" sportive lemur | <i>Lepilemur sp.</i> | 1 |
| | Lemuridae | |
| Mongoose lemur | <i>Eulemur mongoz</i> | 1 |
| Eastern lesser bamboo lemur | <i>Hapalemur griseus</i> | 1 |
| Golden bamboo lemur | <i>Hapalemur aureus</i> | 1 |
| Ring-tailed lemur | <i>Lemur catta</i> | 1 |
| Red-ruffed lemur | <i>Varecia rubra</i> | 1 |
| Black-and-white ruffed lemur | <i>Varecia variegata</i> | 1 |
| Brown lemur | <i>Eulemur fulvus</i> | 1 |
| Red-fronted brown lemur | <i>Eulemur rufifrons</i> | 1 |
| White-fronted lemur | <i>Eulemur albifrons</i> | 1 |
| | Indriidae | |
| Eastern woolly lemur | <i>Avahi laniger</i> | 1 |
| Diademed sifaka | <i>Propithecus diadema</i> | 1 |
| Milne-Edwards's sifaka | <i>Propithecus edwardsi</i> | 1 |
| Verreaux's sifaka | <i>Propithecus verreauxi</i> | 1 |
| Coquerel's sifaka | <i>Propithecus coquereli</i> | 1 |
| Indri | <i>Indri indri</i> | 1 |
| Ring-tailed vontsira | <i>Galidia elegans</i> | 1 |
| | RODENTIA | |
| | Nesomyidae | |
| Eastern red forest rat | <i>Nesomys rufus</i> | 1 |

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| TOTAL | 30 |
|--------------|-----------|

| MADAGASCAR HERPETOFAUNA LIST OCTOBER 2016 | | |
|--|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Common Name IUCN (where given) | Scientific Name IUCN | Trip |
| | REPTILIA | |
| | CROCODYLIA | |
| | Crocodylidae | |
| Nile crocodile | <i>Crocodylus niloticus</i> | 1 |
| | SQUAMATA | |
| | Chamaeleonidae | |
| Short-horned chameleon | <i>Calumma brevicorne</i> | 1 |
| Short-nosed chameleon | <i>Calumma gastrotaenia</i> | 1 |
| Glaw's short-nosed chameleon | <i>Calumma glawi</i> | 1 |
| Nose-horned chameleon | <i>Calumma nasutum</i> | 1 |
| O'Shaughnessy's chameleon | <i>Calumma oshaughnessyi</i> | 1 |
| Cryptic chameleon | <i>Calumma crypticum</i> | 1 |
| Jeweled chameleon | <i>Furcifer lateralis</i> | 1 |
| Oustalet's chameleon | <i>Furcifer oustaleti</i> | 1 |
| Panther chameleon | <i>Furcifer pardalis</i> | 1 |
| Rhinoceros chameleon | <i>Furcifer rhinoceratus</i> | 1 |
| Warty chameleon | <i>Furcifer verrucosus</i> | 1 |
| | Gekkonidae | |
| "Unidentified" dwarf gecko | <i>Lygodactylus sp.</i> | 1 |
| Fish-scale gecko | <i>Geckolepis maculata</i> | 1 |
| Common flat-tail gecko | <i>Uroplatus fimbriatus</i> | 1 |
| Satanic leaf-tailed gecko | <i>Uroplatus phantasticus</i> | 1 |
| Peacock day gecko | <i>Phelsuma quadriocellata</i> | 1 |
| Madagascar day gecko | <i>Phelsuma madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Standing's day gecko | <i>Phelsuma standingi</i> | 1 |
| Lined day gecko | <i>Phelsuma lineata</i> | 1 |
| Common house gecko | <i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i> | 1 |
| | Scincidae | |
| Elegant mabuya | <i>Trachylepis elegans</i> | 1 |
| Common Madagascar skink | <i>Madascincus melanopleura</i> | 1 |
| | Gerrhosauridae | |
| Ornate girdled lizard | <i>Zonosaurus ornatus</i> | 1 |
| Madagascar girdled lizard | <i>Zonosaurus madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Western girdled lizard | <i>Zonosaurus laticaudatus</i> | 1 |
| | Opluridae | |
| Malagasy three-eyed lizard | <i>Chalarodon madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Duméril's Madagascar swift | <i>Oplurus quadrimaculatus</i> | 1 |

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Cuvier's Madagascar swift | <i>Oplurus cuvieri</i> | 1 |
| Merrem's Madagascar swift | <i>Oplurus cyclurus</i> | 1 |
| | Boidae | |
| Madagascar tree boa | <i>Sanzinia m. madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Madagascar tree boa | <i>Sanzinia m. volontany</i> | x |
| | Pseudoxyrhopiidae | |
| Red brook snake | <i>Pseudoxyrhopus tritaeniatus</i> | 1 |
| Malagasy giant hognose snake | <i>Leioheterodon madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Blonde hognose snake | <i>Leioheterodon modestus</i> | 1 |
| Western banded tree snake | <i>Phisalixella tulearensis</i> | 1 |
| Forest water snake | <i>Thamnosophis infrasignatus</i> | 1 |
| | Lamprophiidae | |
| Lined forest snake | <i>Compsophis infralineatus</i> | 1 |
| | Psammophiidae | |
| Common big-eyed snake | <i>Mimophis mahfalensis</i> | 1 |
| Madagascar night snake | <i>Madagascarophis colubrinus</i> | 1 |
| | TESTUDINES | |
| | Pelomedusidae | |
| Yellowbelly mud turtle | <i>Pelusios castanoides</i> | 1 |
| | Testudinidae | |
| Spider tortoise | <i>Pyxis arachnoides oblonga</i> | 1 |
| | AMPHIBIA | |
| | ANURA | |
| | Ptychadenidae | |
| Mascarene grass frog | <i>Ptychadena mascareniensis</i> | 1 |
| | Mantellidae | |
| Sculpted Madagascar frog | <i>Gephyromantis sculpturatus</i> | 1 |
| Madagascar bright-eyed frog | <i>Boophis madagascariensis</i> | 1 |
| Douliot's treefrog | <i>Boophis doulioti</i> | 1 |
| Polka-dot bright-eyed frog | <i>Boophis tasymena</i> | 1 |
| Duméril's bright-eyed frog | <i>Boophis tephraeomystax</i> | 1 |
| Green bright-eyed frog | <i>Boophis viridis</i> | 1 |
| TOTAL | | 48 |