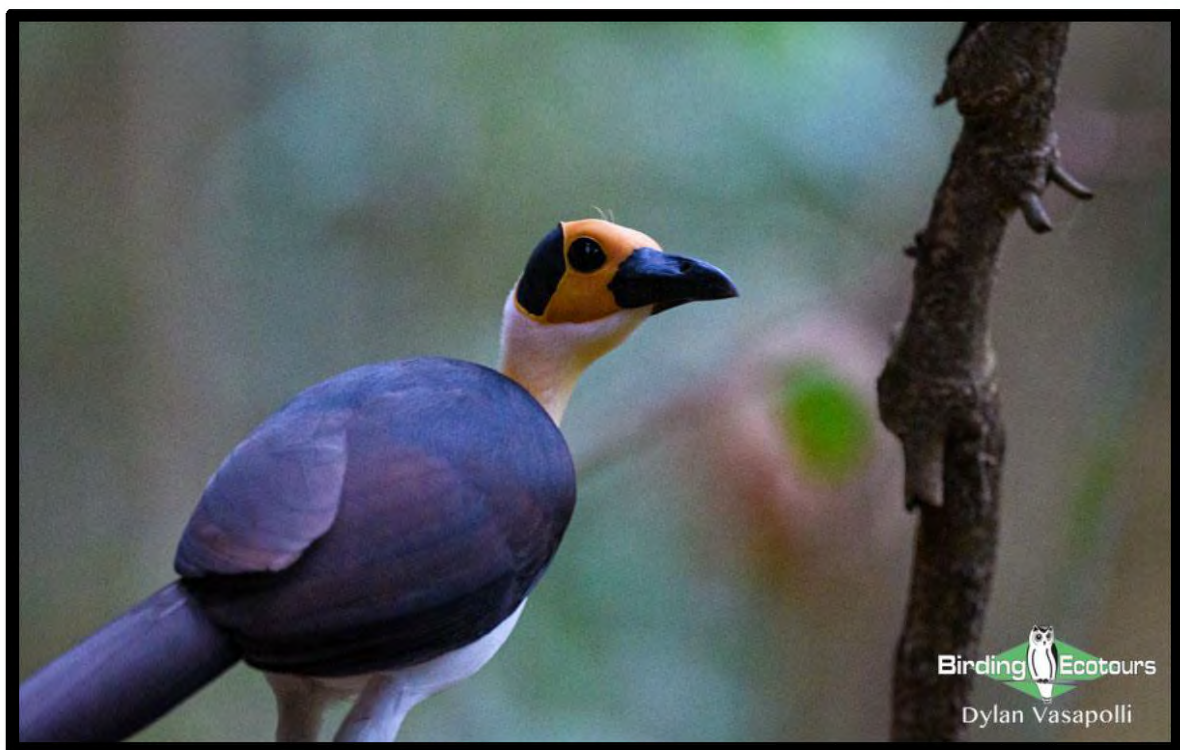




**GHANA: UPPER GUINEA FOREST TO THE SAHEL
SET DEPARTURE TOUR REPORT**

26 FEBRUARY - 19 MARCH 2023

By Dylan Vasapolli



White-necked Rockfowl is one of the ultimate species of this tour, and indeed Africa!

Overview

Ghana is arguably the best country from which to access West Africa from a birding point of view. Vast tracts of lowland forests still persist, with the wild Ankasa Conservation Area being the best example, housing almost the full contingent of Upper Guinea Forest specials. Further north in the country, the forests are replaced by Guinea woodlands and savannas, where herds of **African Elephants** still roam around in the vast Mole National Park. Further north still, one reaches the edge of the Sahelian zone – an effective buffer to the Sahara Desert, which hosts typical dry country arid specials.

Our tour largely followed suit, covering all the habitat types found in Ghana. Firstly, various tracts of forests near the coast, including the Kakum Forest and its excellent canopy walkway, and the vast Ankasa Conservation Area wilderness zone were visited. Here we found such desirable birds as **Rufous-sided Broadbill**, **Black and Blue-moustached Bee-eaters**, **White-bellied Kingfisher**, **Tit Hylia**, **Sharpe's Apalis**, and the mega **Nkulengu Rail**. We also visited the Bonkro forest, where we would stake out one of the country's premier birds – **White-necked Rockfowl**.



Blue-moustached Bee-eater is one of Ghana's more sought-after birds – we did well to find a pair at Ankasa.

We then transitioned into the wooded Guinea savannas of Mole National Park, which were very birdy. Gaudy birds like **Violet Turaco**, **Red-throated Bee-eater**, **Senegal Parrot** and **Black-faced Firefinch** were seen, along with other specials like **Forbes's Plover** and **Sun Lark**. The group also had close encounters with **African Elephants**. The arid north, near the Burkina Faso border, was also visited as it hosts the **Egyptian Plover** – another excellent target species. Various other arid-country species, like **Abyssinian Roller** and **Long-tailed Glossy Starling**, were seen

in this Sahelian zone. A long trek back down to the more forested coastal region gave us the special **Long-tailed Hawk** and **Black Dwarf Hornbill** at Bobiri Butterfly Reserve, along with other excellent species including, **Yellow-throated Cuckoo**, **Yellow-footed Honeyguide**, **Red-cheeked Wattle-eye** and **Chocolate-backed Kingfisher** to round up the tour.

The birding in Ghana, as is typical of the lowland West African forests, is generally difficult and requires lots of time and patience in the appropriate habitats. We did very well by all standards, finding all the major specials of the tour, like **White-necked Rockfowl**, **Nkulengu Rail**, and **Egyptian Plover**, along with a heap of other scarce species restricted to this Upper Guinea section of Africa.

A detailed daily account of the tour can be read below, and complete bird and mammal lists can be found at the end of the report. Well over 400 species of birds were recorded on this tour.

Detailed Report

Day 1, 26th February 2023. Arrival into Accra

Today was set aside as an arrival day, with no formal plans. Some of the guests had arrived the previous day, and the remaining part of the group arrived during the course of the afternoon. After some downtime, the group formally met for dinner and spent the evening running through the many exciting birds that lay ahead over the course of the next few weeks.

Day 2, 27th February 2023. Accra to Kakum, via the Cape Coast Castle

We had an early breakfast and hit the road soon after, negotiating our way through the crazy Accra traffic. Indeed, it was a bit slower than we anticipated, and we eventually arrived at the Winneba Lagoon, our first stop of the day, in the mid-morning. Unfortunately, the tide was up, and water covered the entirety of the mudflats. Fortunately, a few small grassy banks in the distance supported a fair number of shorebirds and terns, and we slowly worked through them in the scope. Numbers of the sought-after **West African Crested Tern** were present, and some careful scanning also revealed **Sandwich** and **Black Terns** among the more numerous **Common Terns**. Waders were dominated by large numbers of **Grey Plovers**, with small numbers of **Sanderlings**, **Ruddy Turnstones**, **Common Whimbrels**, **Curllew** and **Common Sandpipers**, **Common Ringed Plovers** and **Bar-tailed Godwits** all noted. We also enjoyed the antics of the resident **Western Reef Herons** and **Pied Kingfishers**. Having worked the area to our satisfaction, we continued on our way once more, now bound for the tragic Cape Coast Castle. Some minor vehicle issues on the way halted us, but we eventually arrived in time for lunch, after which we undertook a tour of the castle. This was an emotional experience for all of us, as we visited various points around the castle, including the dungeons and the 'Door of no return'.

Following this rather sobering visit, we continued the short distance to our lodge right outside the Kakum National Park, where we would be based for the next three nights. We quickly checked in and dropped our things off before venturing into some nearby farm-brush habitat for a short spell of late afternoon birding. Initially the birding was slow, but soon picked up, and we barely moved for a long period of time as new birds came in thick and fast. A lively **Red-winged Prinia** called from a nearby tree, while a pair of bright **Splendid Sunbirds** visited a flowering bush. Both

Common and **Grey Kestrels** graced the skyline before a **Mottled Spinetail** and several **Rosy Bee-eaters** crashed the party. A stunning **Viellot's Barbet** perched wonderfully on an exposed snag for us, while a bright **Diederik Cuckoo** came calling by. We were able to pry out a shy **Black-crowned Tchagra** from the scrub, along with both **Little** and **Simple Greenbuls**. Numbers of **Copper Sunbirds** also provided regular entertainment, as did several **African Pied Hornbills**. We tore ourselves away and settled in for the evening, following a long but productive day out – excited for our days ahead in the Kakum area.



Birding from the canopy walkway in Kakum National Park offers unparalleled access to the forest birds of the region.

Day 3, 28th February 2023. Birding the Kakum walkway

One of the many highlights of our Ghana tour is the day we spend on the canopy walkway at the fabulous Kakum National Park. We had an early start to maximize our time on the walkway before it got too warm (and crowded), and soon, we were summiting the steep rocky pathway and making our way onto the walkway. We noted a few birds on the way up, which included a few bright male **Buff-throated Sunbirds**, along with several greenbuls like **Little Grey Greenbul**, while numerous calling **Forest Robins** remained unseen sadly. The canopy walkway itself was a little quiet, and while we added birds as we went along, they were mostly few and far between. A pair of **Violet-backed Hyliotas** flew in and kicked things off but didn't hang around for long, while a **Red-headed Malimbe** gave us more satisfactory views. Both **Little Grey** and **Ussher's Flycatchers** showed well, as did a migratory **Wood Warbler**. Numbers of barbets and tinkerbirds were heard calling, but we only managed views of **Speckled Tinkerbird**, along with a very brief **Yellow-billed Barbet**. Both **Black-winged Oriole** and **Sabine's Puffback** eventually showed well, as did the sought-after **Sharpe's Apalis** and a fast-moving party of **Spotted Greenbuls**.

While enjoying the antics of a pair of **Collared Sunbirds**, we picked up on a fast-moving **Tit Hylia**. Fortunately, the bird settled close to us and put on quite the show – also joined by several other individuals – before eventually melting back into the forest. Raptors were also sparse, and only an **African Cuckoo-Hawk** and **African Harrier-Hawk** were seen, while a calling **Congo Serpent Eagle** sadly left us frustrated. We eventually called it a morning and made our way back down the hill, where we took a short break over the lunch period.

We resumed in the mid-afternoon back at the Kakum walkway, hoping for more activity than the morning spell had produced. We were partly successful, as although it was still decidedly quiet in the afternoon on the walkway, we did manage to eke out a few more birds. A tiny **West African Batis** jumped around the tree tops in front of us, and after long and patient scanning, we finally picked up on **Brown-cheeked Hornbill**, and enjoyed some good scope views! Several **Black Bee-eaters** made a few flyby passes over us, while a tiny **Yellow-throated Tinkerbird** posed briefly. We also finally enjoyed good looks at **Grey-headed** and **White-breasted Nigritas** – both of which were frequently heard during the day. While watching a **Palm-nut Vulture** cruising overhead, we also picked up on two distant **Red-fronted Parrots** flying above the treetops, but we had to be content with somewhat distant views of these. As to be expected we added a few more birds to the heard-only list, such as **Grey-headed Bristlebill**, **White-throated Greenbul**, **Blue Malkoha** and **Yellow-billed Turaco**. We waited until dark and tried for a few owls around the parking area but came up empty-handed. We headed back to our lodge and settled in for the evening, following another long, but good day out.



*Glorious **Black Bee-eaters** were seen around the Kakum walkway and proved to be a regular sight in most forests we birded in Ghana.*

Day 4, 1st March 2023. Birding Kakum and surrounds

We started our morning nice and early before it got too warm, birding the farm-brush (and eventually the forests themselves) on the edge of the Kakum National Park. Activity was high, and progress was slow – as there were almost too many birds to look at! A look at a bustling colony of the unique West African race of **Vieillot's Black Weaver** also produced a fine **African Pygmy Kingfisher** and a **Guinea Turaco**. Nearby thickets held the tiny **Green Crombec** and a very mobile **Brown-throated Wattle-eye**. A small flock of **Piping Hornbills** joined the throngs of **African Pied Hornbills**, with a few of the sought-after (and bright!) **Rosy Bee-eaters** mixed into the groupings. Several **Blue-throated Rollers** perched atop some of the larger trees on the forest edge, eventually showing their blue throats. At the same time, small groups of **Orange-cheeked Waxbill** and **Red-headed Quelea** flitted about the rank growth. A flowering tree held masses of sunbirds, with the large **Superb Sunbird** dominating the numbers. Here, we also picked out **Buff-throated** and **Blue-throated Brown Sunbirds**. We tried our best to get into the forest before it was too late in the day, with our final distraction being a flock of scarce **Black Spinetails** flying low overhead. Once in the forest, the activity, and numbers of birds we saw dropped quickly, but our patience netted us **Naked-faced Barbet**, **Western Oriole**, and **Golden Greenbul** early on. A vocal **Chocolate-backed Kingfisher** refused to show, despite a long, hard, and dedicated search. Another species we failed to lay eyes on was **Rufous-sided Broadbill**, we heard a displaying bird not far from us but it was deep in an inaccessible valley. We did manage to bag a few more species, from **Fraser's Sunbird** to **Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher** and **Red-vented Malimbe**. A vocal **Blue-billed Malimbe** soon joined the party, but its brief showing left us wanting more. We eventually retired for the morning and headed back to our lodge for a lunch break and siesta, following an excellent few hours out.



Black Spinetail is a scarce species and showed well for the group in the Kakum vicinity!

We resumed in the late afternoon, exploring another tract of forest right next to the Kakum National Park. We enjoyed a productive walk along the roadside here, adding a constant stream of new species. A **Sabine's Spinetail** flitted overhead, quickly followed by a lone **Preuss's Cliff Swallow**, while both **Yellow-billed Barbets** and **Red-rumped Tinkerbirds** showed well in the giant canopies. A mixed flock held the likes of busy **Rufous-crowned Eremomelas**, **Green Crombecs** and **Tit Hylia**s. We improved our views of **Fraser's Sunbird** while also getting our first looks at **Western Bearded** and **Red-tailed Greenbuls**. As the sun began to set, we finally got some excellent views of **Yellow-billed Turaco**, while our views of **Blue-headed Wood Dove** and **Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo** left much to be desired. A few of us returned after dinner to try for some owls, but a large storm rolled in with heavy winds, which meant we had to be content with having **Fraser's Eagle Owl** as heard only. Nonetheless, the light show we had with the lighting in the distance was a sight to behold.



*We saw our first **Preuss's Cliff Swallow** today – we would later go on to see many more at various colonies over the course of the tour (such as these seen near Bonkro in a few days' time).*

Day 5, 2nd March 2023. Birding Kakum surroundings and transfer to Sekondi

We spent the morning birding in the mixed farm-brush/forest edge habitat near Kakum National Park. It was an extremely birdy walk, and we tallied nearly 100 species in a few hours, which, given the lack of waterbirds, was a great achievement. We spent some time early on prying out a shy **Western Nicator**, which showed well to all; however, a **Western Bluebill** wasn't as cooperative, with only a few in the group managing to see it well. Many iconic African bird families showed well on the walk, with species like **Little, White-throated** and **Rosy Bee-eaters**, **Viellot's** and **Double-toothed Barbets** and **African Pied Hornbill** all commonly seen. We saw an incredible ten sunbird species, with **Johanna's Sunbird** being the main highlight, along with

the stunning **Buff-throated, Splendid and Superb Sunbirds** as well. We spent some time slowly birding rank grassy edges, which gave up a large flock of **Black-and-white Mannikins**, along with **Chestnut-breasted Nigrita, Orange-cheeked Waxbill**, and the scarce **Black-bellied Seedcracker**. A vocal **White-spotted Flufftail** refused to show despite our best efforts. Following a short break that allowed us to gather our things, we had lunch and checked out, bound for Nsuta Forest. We made quick progress and arrived in good time, allowing us to leisurely check-in to our hotel before setting off for the afternoon birding. Unfortunately, it is a fair drive to get to the Nsuta Forest from the hotel, and it is sad to see just how badly the forest has been destroyed in recent years after opening it to logging. The birding was very slow, though kickstarted into life with a **Blue Cuckooshrike** that came flying in. A few **Red-fronted Parrots** were seen inspecting a possible nesting hole, and we enjoyed repeat views of **Yellow-billed Turaco**. The plaintive bubbling calls of **Black-throated Coucal** rang out from all around us, but we were unable to lure this species out into the open. While enjoying a flock of **African Green Pigeons** sitting in the open, we had to scramble to get onto the mixed flock of **Chestnut-winged and Copper-tailed Starlings** that came flying overhead. A fine **Yellow-spotted Barbet** rounded off the day, and we returned to the hotel, arriving in time for a late dinner.

Day 6, 3rd March 2023. Birding Nsuta Forest, and transfer to Ankasa

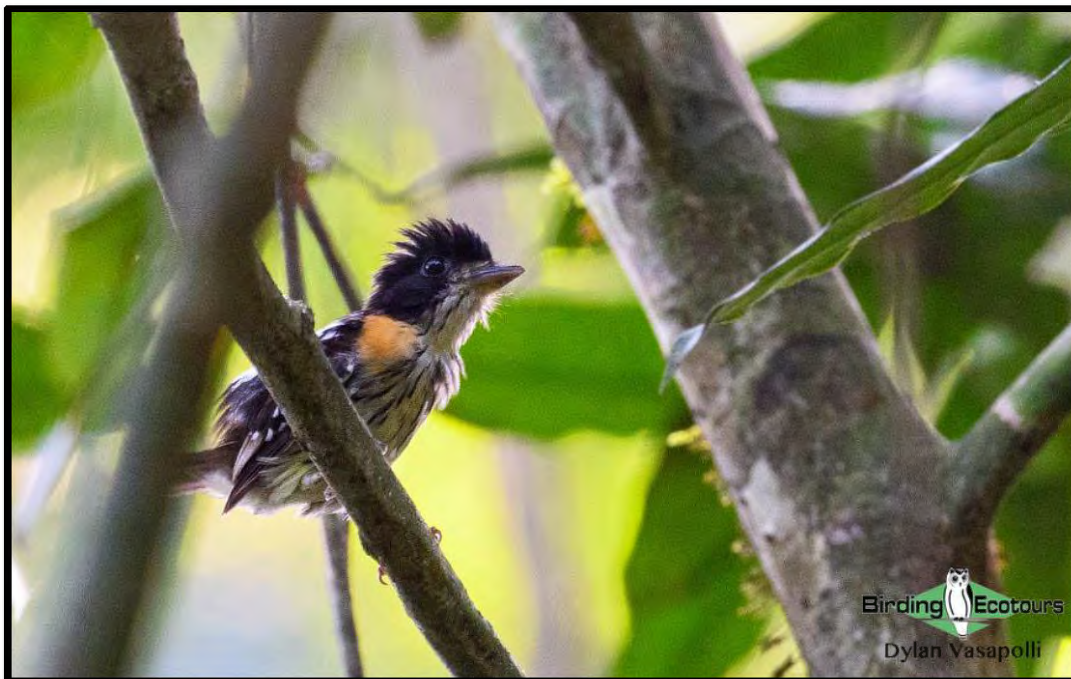
Our morning saw us heading back to the Nsuta Forest and exploring a slightly different section of road to the one we had worked yesterday. As hoped, the morning period was more productive, and we enjoyed many great sightings. A noisy flock of **Red-fronted Parrots**, perched **Piping Hornbills** and some flight views of **Yellow-billed Turacos** were early highlights before we enjoyed looks at the shy **Blue-headed Wood Dove**. A **Red-thighed Sparrowhawk** dashed overhead before we latched onto an excellent **Black Dwarf Hornbill** perched in the open. We soaked up our views of this scarce species while also listening to a **Red-billed Dwarf Hornbill** calling in the distance before pulling out yet more good species like a bright **Yellow-browed Camaroptera** and a shy **Grey Longbill**. A pair of minuscule **African Piculets** were then picked up right next to the road, and put on a stunning show for us! Nearby, both **Blue-breasted Kingfisher** and **Cassin's Honeybird** were seen in flight over us. We naturally enjoyed views of several more widespread species as well during our morning. Still, before long, we found ourselves back in the bus and heading back to our guesthouse, where we enjoyed lunch before checking out and pressing on to Ankasa. We would be spending three nights at the Ankasa Conservation Area, exploring the excellent forests there, and made good progress on the way. A few stops were made where we enjoyed the likes of **African Pygmy Goose** and **Orange Weaver** at a lily-covered pan and numbers of the scarce **Hartlaub's Ducks** and **Reichenbach's Sunbirds** at a mangrove area. We arrived in the late afternoon at the newly built (and extremely comfortable) lodge right outside the entrance to the Ankasa Conservation Area and settled in for the evening.

Days 7 - 8, 4th - 5th March 2023. Birding Ankasa and Nkulengu Rails

We had two full days of birding the incredible Ankasa Conservation Area. Both daily accounts are discussed below together, as similar routes and birds were seen on both days.

While spectacular, this excellent tract of primary lowland forest is challenging to bird, with many species taking long periods of time to see, if they are seen at all. One of our main highlights was

an incredible, displaying **Rufous-sided Broadbill**, which we watched for ages, close by. We also enjoyed familiarizing ourselves with various forest flycatchers. **Dusky-blue Flycatchers** frequented the edges, while the interior held the scarce **Fraser's Forest Flycatcher**; **Cassin's Flycatchers** hung out over the forested rivers; and **Blue-headed Crested Flycatchers** kept to dark thickets, and we were only able to tease out brief views. Nesting **Blue-billed Malimb**es proved easy to see and showed well, while **Red-vented** and **Crested Malimb**es only gave us quick views. Scanning the canopy gave us several birds, from the colorful **African Green Pigeon** and fast-moving **Black-capped Apalis** to the more dull-looking **Fraser's Sunbird** and **Forest Penduline Tit**. Bright **Black Bee-eaters** were seen several times, including at point-blank range at our comfortable accommodation, as were **Grey Parrots**. A large flock of **Red-billed Dwarf Hornbills** eventually gave themselves up, while **White-crested Hornbill** put in a swift appearance.



*A male **Rufous-sided Broadbill** about to launch into its distinct aerial display. We heard these birds on several occasions and finally found one that showed nicely at Ankasa.*

We spent a while working several pairs of the furtive **Forest Robins** – unfortunately only some of the group managed good looks at these shy birds. **Icterine Greenbuls** showed well while feeding in the dark thickets, as did the similar **Western Bearded** and **Yellow-bearded Greenbuls**, while **Grey-headed Bristlebills** were seen flittering over the track. Distant views of **Red-billed Helmetshrikes** left us wanting a bit more while we enjoyed our views of **Square-tailed Saw-wing** as they flitted over a clearing in the forest. A **Blackcap Illadopsis** gave us surprisingly excellent views, perching motionless for ages, allowing all of us to soak-up prolonged scope views of this calling bird. **White-tailed Alethes** proved difficult to see, with only the briefest of views, and **White-tailed Ant Thrush** showed only marginally better. Raptors were generally sparse, but a vocal **Long-tailed Hawk** (that frustratingly remained out of sight) was our only notable species.

The evening period brought about our chances for one of Ghana's lesser-known (and appreciated) specials – **Nkulengu Rail**. These shy forest rails were a somewhat mythical species for a long time, with only exceptionally random sightings to go around. However, the local guides in Ghana have perfected the art of finding these mega birds. After a few unsuccessful attempts, listening to family groups give out their strange calls in the darkness, our guides expertly found a family group of five birds, giving us incredible views. We also had a few owling attempts but came up empty-handed on all accounts.



A group of Nkulengu Rails - expertly found by our local guides - roosting in the darkness of the Ankasa forests at night; seeing these special birds is quite the experience.

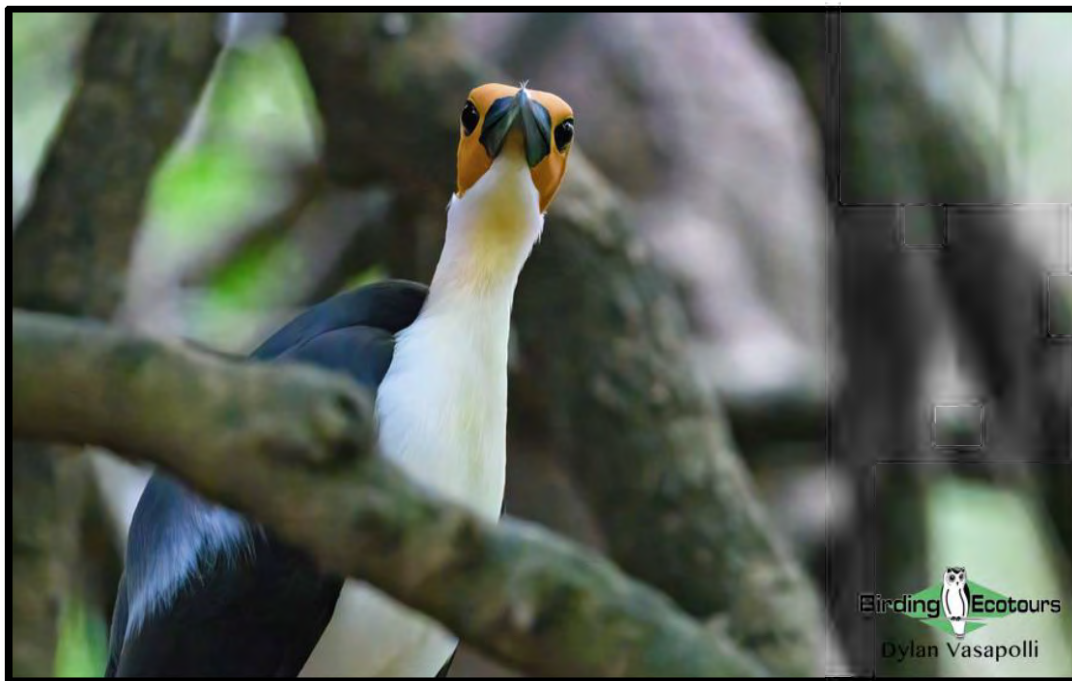
Day 9, 6th March 2023. Birding Ankasa and transfer to Kakum

We had a final morning to spend within the Ankasa Forest and ventured deep into the ponds, where we spent the bulk of our time. We started off well, immediately finding a stunning **Western Bronze-naped Pigeon** perched up on a dead snag. **Red-billed Helmetshrikes** then gave off a few calls and showed briefly before continuing on their way. At the ponds, a high-pitched whistle led us to a quietly perched **White-bellied Kingfisher**, which sadly didn't hang around for too long. We had to distract ourselves with the nesting **Blue-billed Malimbos**, along with several **West African Wattle-eyes** and **Swamp Palm Bulbuls** which were knocking around as well. **Shining Blue Kingfisher** was heard several times, but we just couldn't see it. As it so often happens, we were busy talking about **Blue-moustached Bee-eater** and how great it would be to get this bird when, as if right on cue, a pair of these supremely stunning birds flew right in. The pair couldn't have landed any closer to us, and we spent the next 15 minutes watching them as they preened, bathed, and preened again. Brimming from ear to ear, we made our way back to the lodge. After lunch, we hit the road, heading back to the Kakum area, where we arrived in the early evening. A

few short stops were made along the way, and the only birds of interest went to **African Pygmy Goose** and **Allen's Gallinule** at our familiar roadside pond.

Day 10, 7th March 2023. Transfer to Bonkro, and White-necked Rockfowl!

A busy day lay ahead of us as we transited up to the village of Bonkro, from which you can access one of the only reliable White-necked Rockfowl colonies in the world. Formerly known as Yellow-headed Picathartes, this strange-looking bird, along with its sister species (Grey-necked Rockfowl/Red-headed Picathartes), is highly sought-after by world listers as they are in their own taxonomic family. We still had a bit of a drive to get there, and sadly, our morning was marred with heavy rain, which meant we had to bird opportunistically whenever conditions allowed. We squeezed in a successful stop on the Pra River for the unique race of **Rock Pratincole** and **White-bibbed Swallow**, while some forest edge habitat produced species like **White-crested Hornbill**, **Naked-faced Barbet**, **Red-fronted Parrot**, and **Red-vented Malimbe**. A fine **European Honey Buzzard** gave us good flyby views, and we enjoyed stops at several **Preuss's Cliff Swallow** colonies, which provided us with excellent looks. Nearby farm scrub gave us the likes of both **Blue-headed** and **Senegal Coucals**, providing for good comparative views of these similar species, amongst others.



*It's safe to say we enjoyed close-up and personal views of the mega **White-necked Rockfowl**.*

We arrived at the wonderfully appointed new guesthouse in the Bonkro village, where we had a short break. Soon, however, we found ourselves heading into the surrounding forest, where we would have our appointment with this most-wanted bird. The forest edge was extremely birdy, and it took a little while for us to work through the throngs of birds. A pair of **Purple-throated Cuckooshrikes** gave us somewhat distant views, and whilst trying for better views, we stumbled

upon a calling **Lemon-bellied Crombec**, before another small bird morphed into an excellent **Forest Penduline Tit**. Scanning the bare branches of some of the trees produced both **Yellow-mantled** and **Maxwell's Black Weavers**. We eventually put blinkers on, and headed up to the massive rock, where the **White-necked Rockfowl** breed and gather to roost. We settled in and waited until the birds arrived. They were a little on the late side, but soon enough, a yellow and white head popped into view, and we all breathed a heavy sigh of relief, having seen another of Africa's mega birds, **White-necked Rockfowl**. Just a single bird showed during our time, and it showed wonderfully, hopping along the ground right in front of us, no more than two meters away, before settling on some nearby branches for a long preen. We were thrilled with our views, and after having had our fill, we set off back down the forest track. A few birding stops gave up brief views of **Finsch's Rufous Thrush**, and a calling **Narina Trogon**, but little else. The day wasn't done just yet, as after an excellent dinner, we headed off to try for some owls nearby. It was slow initially, but after having heard **Fraser's Eagle-Owl** calling for ages, we finally found the bird and enjoyed good views! Sadly, we could not repeat the feat with a calling **Akun Eagle-Owl**, or any of the many **Western Tree Hyraxes**. A fine **Long-tailed Nightjar** rounded off a superb day!



*After a long search, we finally found the vocal **Fraser's Eagle-Owl** outside Bonkro.*

Day 11, 8th March 2023. Transfer to Mole National Park

A long day of traveling lay ahead of us, as we transited up to Mole National Park. Shortly after breakfast, a quick birding spell yielded a calling **Puvel's Illadopsis** and a fidgety **Red-cheeked Wattle-eye**. We then settled in for the long drive, with the only other bird of note coming in the form of **Grasshopper Buzzards**, later in the day once we neared Mole. We arrived in the early evening and called it a day, with two exciting days of birding Ghana's most famous national park lying ahead.

Days 12 – 13, 9th – 10th March 2023. Birding Mole National Park

Our two full days birding around Mole National Park are covered below as one account due to the similar nature of the days and birds we encountered.

We spent some time walking around the hotel, which proved birdy. Flocks of seedeaters adorned the bare ground, and we carefully sifted through them and found the likes of **Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu**, **Red-billed Firefinch** and **Sahel Bush Sparrow**. Numbers of indigobirds were present, but in a wide array of juvenile and female-type plumages, and with no calling going on, we were left to ponder their identification. Busy **Senegal Eremomelas** flitted about the canopies and were joined by the likes of **Grey Tit-Flycatcher**, **Brubru**, and **Senegal Batis**, while **Northern Black Flycatcher** kept to the lower parts of the trees. Flashy **Yellow-crowned Gonoleks** gave us great views, and we also marveled at both **Beautiful** and **Pygmy Sunbirds**.

We spent some time exploring the network of small pools and waterbodies below the hotel, which proved extremely productive. **Oriole Warblers** called from the thickets but sadly couldn't be pried out. We waited at the small pools as they pulled in numbers of seedeaters coming down to drink. Bulky **Yellow-mantled Widowbirds** dominated the numbers, but careful scanning revealed **Northern Red Bishops** and **Red-billed Queleas**. The smaller finches were comprised mostly of **Red-billed Firefinches**, but we enjoyed separating out the similar **Bar-breasted Firefinches**. We struck gold with the likes of the **Orange-cheeked** and **Lavender Waxbills** also coming down, along with the sought-after **Black-faced Firefinch** and **Red-winged Pytilia**. A bright **White-crowned Robin-Chat** also showed here.



*A delightful **Black-faced Firefinch** was one of many colorful seedeaters coming in to drink at the small pools near our lodge in Mole.*

Trips were made out into the plains sections, where we tracked down the likes of the tricky **Sun Lark** and the scarce **Forbes's Plover** without much difficulty. Birding the woodlands was tricky, with long, quiet stretches in between bouts of activity, but after paying our dues, we came up trumps with a number of the expected species. Both **Fine-spotted** and **African Grey Woodpeckers** were crowd favorites, and it took some careful searching to find the scarce **White-fronted Black Chat** and **Rufous Cisticola**. Colorful **Bearded Barbets** were spotted perched on the bare branches, and tiny **Yellow-fronted Tinkerbirds** were also pried out. **Black** and **African Cuckoos** showed well, as did **White-shouldered Black Tit**. **Brown-rumped Buntings** perched up and sang from exposed perches, as did the beautifully plumaged **Grey-headed Kingfisher**. After a few flyby views, we finally tracked down **Senegal Parrots** for some good perched views, along with both **Purple** and **Lesser Blue-eared Starlings**. A wide range of other species were found, from orioles and bushshrikes to flycatchers, sunbirds, white-eyes, and many others. We also kept an eye to the skies and added several new raptor species to our burgeoning list. **Hooded Vulture** and **Yellow-billed Kite** made up the bulk of the numbers, but we also did well adding **Bateleur**, **White-backed** and **White-headed Vultures**, **Black Kite**, **African Cuckoo-Hawk**, **Lizard Buzzard**, **Gabar Goshawk** and **Lanner Falcon**. **African Woolly-necked Storks** were often seen soaring with the raptors, while other waterbirds were generally a bit scarce, with only common and widespread species being noted. Sadly, a night-time search for Standard-winged Nightjar was fruitless, with only multiple **Long-tailed Nightjars** and a stunning **North African Crested Porcupine** showing themselves.

On the mammal front, **African Elephants** were seen around the waterholes, along with **Western Bushbuck**, **Kob**, and even some of the scarce **Roan Antelope**. **Common Warthogs** were dime a dozen and some habituated ones even hung around the lodge, along with the ever present (and pesky) **Green Monkeys** and **Olive Baboons**. **Common Patas Monkeys** were seen on the plains.



*A scarce **White-fronted Black Chat** was found in the mixed woodlands of Mole.*

Day 14, 11th March 2023. Transfer to Bolgatanga, birding the Tongo Hills en-route

Another long day of driving lay ahead as we transitioned to our northernmost point on this Ghana tour, Bolgatanga. We made a few birding stops along the way, mostly at roadside wetlands and ponds. Several waterbirds like **African Jacana**, **Hamerkop**, **Squacco Heron**, **Malachite Kingfisher**, and **Blue-headed Coucal** were all noted. Small seedeaters, including **Black-rumped Waxbill**, **Quailfinch**, **Northern Red Bishop**, **Red-billed Firefinch**, **Sahel Bush Sparrow**, **Red-billed Quelea**, and **Black-headed Weaver** were seen flitting about the edges, waiting for opportune moments to come and drink. With limited water in these drier parts of the north, many raptors also hang around the water bodies – we found **Grasshopper Buzzard** and **Red-necked Falcon**, amongst others. We were also able to finally entice a group of **Stone Partridges** out into the open, and we started to encounter more arid species such as **Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark**, **Namaqua Dove**, and **Long-tailed Glossy Starling**.

We eventually arrived at the Tongo Hills in the afternoon, which were our main focal point of birding for the day. These interesting mountains are home to some good birds, and we did extremely well to find our targets: **Fox Kestrel**, **Rock-loving Cisticola**, **White-crowned Cliff Chat**, and **Gosling's Bunting** in no time! **Bearded Barbets** showed well, perched in the tree tops, while gangs of **Piapiacs** roamed the plains below and bright **Abyssinian Rollers** perched on the roadside wires. We checked into our comfortable hotel in the late afternoon and settled in for the evening.

Day 15, 12th March 2023. Egyptian Plover and birding the arid north

This was another highly anticipated day of the tour, as we journeyed up to the White Volta River on the Burkina Faso border to search for Egyptian Plover. This unique wader is a monotypic species, and as such, is a highly sought-after species for world birders – not to mention its dapper plumage, adding to the attraction. Before arriving at the White Volta River, we spent some time birding the arid Sahelian plains. A group of **Black-headed Lapwings** were picked up quickly, and we bettered our views of **Abyssinian Roller** and **Long-tailed Glossy Starling**. Others like **Northern Red-billed Hornbill**, **Purple Roller** and **Greater Blue-eared Starling** were also found, while some scrubby thornveld habitat produced further species like charming parties of **White-crested Helmetshrikes**, small groups of **Chestnut-bellied Starlings** and a few colonies of **White-billed Buffalo Weavers**, along with favorites like **Pygmy** and **Beautiful Sunbirds**. We arrived at the river and almost immediately picked up our target – an **Egyptian Plover** walking along a sandbar on the opposite bank. We enjoyed some distant scope views before wandering further down - looking for a closer individual. **Mourning Collared Dove** cooed from the riverine trees and showed well, while **Northern Carmine Bee-eaters** hawked insects from above. A short way down, we picked up several more **Egyptian Plovers**, this time on our side of the river, and enjoyed superb views of these mega birds as they wandered up and down, largely unperturbed by us.

After having had our fill, we focused our attention on a nearby wetland. Vast numbers of **Squacco Herons**, numbering well into the hundreds, covered the area, and a few more widespread species, such as **Grey Heron**, **Intermediate Egret**, and **African Wattled Lapwing** were seen. Farther away from the river, a smaller dam in the dry arid scrub was extremely productive. A lone **Dark Chanting Goshawk** sat sentinel over the dam. At the same time, some careful scanning of the many **Spur-winged Lapwings** littered on the shoreline revealed a few waders, such as **Green** and

Wood Sandpipers, before we struck gold and found a lovely **Greater Pained-snipe**. **Malachite** and **Pied Kingfishers** moved up and down the reedy edges while the surrounding trees held various seedeaters all coming down to drink. Dainty **African Silverbills** moved in and were soon replaced by **Cut-throat Finches** followed by **White-rumped Seedeaters**. A herd of cows also brought about a flock of **Yellow-billed Oxpeckers**.



An Egyptian Plover surveys its sandbar on the White Volta River in far northern Ghana.

We had a break over the hot midday period and resumed our birding in the late afternoon, with a visit to the Tono Dam and surrounds. The birding was a little slow, with several more widespread waterbirds present on the massive dam's edge. We concentrated the bulk of our time and effort on the scrubby woods surrounding the dam. Favorites like **Senegal Parrot**, **Veillot's Barbet**, **Northern Crombec**, and **Purple Starling** were all obvious. **Bruce's Green Pigeons** gave us brief flyby views, and we did well to pick up a **Common Whitethroat** in a large thicket. Exploring some of the grassier regions gave us the localized **Black-backed Cisticola**, along with **Singing Cisticola** and **Black-rumped Waxbill**, before a surprise **Small Buttonquail** flushed out of the grass. Despite our best efforts, the hoped-for African Green Bee-eaters were nowhere to be seen.

Day 16, 13th March 2023. Travel to Kumasi

Arguably our longest travel day lay ahead as we transitioned away from the dry north back down to the lush, forested southern regions of Ghana. We would be heading to Kumasi today, and the entire day was spent driving, bar a few birding stops, and we arrived at our comfortable hotel in the late afternoon. We enjoyed birds like **White-faced Whistling Duck**, **Senegal Coucal**, **Western Marsh Harrier**, **Red-necked Falcon**, **Winding Cisticola** and **Quailfinch** along the route.

Day 17, 14th March 2023. Birding Bobiri, and transfer to the Atewa Range

Up and out early, we soon rolled into the Bobiri Butterfly Reserve on the outskirts of Kumasi, where we would spend the morning birding. This site is another of Ghana's birding gems and hosts a wide range of scarce and sought-after forest birds that can be easy to miss in other parts of the country, such as Long-tailed Hawk, Black Dwarf Hornbill, and Preuss's Weaver. As soon as we hopped off the bus, we found ourselves in a flurry of bird activity. A large shake of some leaves revealed a stunning **White-crested Hornbill** collecting fruit before two of the scarce **Black Dwarf Hornbills** flew in and took its place. While we had seen this species earlier on in the trip, the views were distant and backlit – however, the views we were treated to here were sublime, with one of the birds remaining perched for the entire duration of our birding here (~20 minutes). The unique bill snaps of helmetshrikes led us to a party of **Red-billed Helmetshrikes** that also finally showed well for all. As if that wasn't enough, a loud piercing call gave away the presence of **Long-tailed Hawk**, and some careful scanning revealed the bird perched high up in the canopy of a nearby tree. We couldn't believe our luck! We slowly continued on our way, birding as we went, and enjoyed a productive morning, though nothing quite matched the first portion. **Preuss's Weaver** frustrated us by calling out of sight, and we did well bettering our views of a wide range of other sought-after birds like **Blue-throated Roller**, **Blue Cuckooshrike**, **Sharpe's Apalis**, **West African Wattle-eye**, **Grey-headed Bristlebill**, **Chestnut-capped Flycatcher** and **Finsch's Rufous Thrush**. The omnipresent **Black-throated Coucals** continually frustrated us, refusing to be seen.



*A scarce **Black Dwarf Hornbill** refuses to budge whilst we were birding at Bobiri.*

Content, we rolled back out of Bobiri and pressed onwards to our next destination, the Atewa Range. Pausing for lunch on the way, we arrived at our hotel in good time, with a bit of time to

rest, before venturing out for the afternoon's birding. We spent the afternoon exploring the scrubby farmland habitat on the edge of the Atewa Range's forests, and a sharp rain shower livened things up dramatically – though it made the tracks all very wet and muddy. A noisy group of **Compact Weavers** flitted about alongside other seedeaters like **Orange-cheeked Waxbill** and **Black-and-white Mannikin**, while several bright **African Pygmy Kingfishers** zipped around flashing their bright colors. A flowering tree held several sunbirds, with **Collared**, **Blue-throated Brown**, **Buff-throated**, and **Superb Sunbirds** all vying for attention. A **Western Bluebill** played hide and seek with the group before the rain started to set in again, and we called it a day.

Day 18, 15th March 2023. Birding and hiking the Atewa Range forests

This is one of the more challenging days of the tour, as we headed out to hike up the Atewa Range and into the mature forest at the top – which usually takes the bulk of the day. The access road was still very muddy, so we had to park much farther away from the usual beginning point. We passed through the same patch of scrubby habitat we birded in the previous afternoon and enjoyed the **Compact Weavers** once more, this time along with several **Red-headed Queleas**. We also tracked down a calling **Lowland Sooty Boubou** nearby before we progressed onto the regular trail. The entire first section up the hill passes through more disturbed forests and forest edge habitats, and we spent some time in this section as it was incredibly birdy. A highly vocal **Puvel's Illadopsis** showed uncharacteristically well and with little effort (for those that don't know, illadopsises are very shy birds), while the stunning **Black Bee-eaters** were a regular presence. **Yellow-throated Cuckoo** piped up and showed off before we spent some time trying to track down the scarce **Kemp's Longbill**, which unfortunately refused to come out of its massive thicket.



A Yellow-throated Cuckoo calls from the treetops.

The birding was by all accounts excellent, and wave after wave of new birds came through. We did well to spot a shy **Chocolate-backed Kingfisher** perched quietly in the leaves, and both **Naked-faced** and **Bristle-nosed Barbets** competed for space in the massive dead trees. The sought-after **Yellow-footed Honeyguide** was found after some concerted effort, and the mega-shy **White-tailed Alethe** gave us brief views flitting about. Roving parties of **Maxwell's Black Weavers** were seen here and there, while a stunning pair of **Violet-backed Hyliotas** put on a great show. We also enjoyed now familiar forest birds like **Tambourine Dove**, **Yellow-billed Turaco**, **Red-rumped Tinkerbird**, **Purple-throated Cuckooshrike**, **Black-winged Oriole**, **Red-billed Helmetshrike**, **Red-tailed Greenbul**, **Red-headed Malimbe**, heaps of sunbirds and **Chestnut-breasted Nigrita**. As we had enjoyed superb views of Blue-moustached Bee-eaters earlier on at Ankasa, we didn't focus any time and effort on this species as many others do here. Unfortunately for us, the hoped-for Nimba Flycatcher was conspicuous only by its absence. Vocal **Cassin's Hawk-Eagles**, several **Ayres's Hawk-Eagles**, and **African Cuckoo-Hawks** were seen in flight over the forest. Tired, we made our way back down the mountain in the mid-afternoon and settled in for a relaxing afternoon with a cold beer or two, celebrating a good day of birding with a bird list of well over 100 species for the day!



*After being heard-only for several days, we finally laid eyes on a **Chocolate-backed Kingfisher**.*

Day 19, 16th March 2023. Transfer to Kalakpa

Our birding for the day was largely restricted to the morning – which we spent on the first part of the Atewa Range trail and in the forest edge habitat that was very birdy the previous day. A good range of now familiar bee-eaters, kingfishers, hornbills, barbets, sunbirds, and weavers eased our way into the morning before some subtle notes led us to a **Red-cheeked Wattle-eye**. We had excellent views of this attractive bird, as not everyone had seen it earlier on, before it melted back

into the undergrowth. **White-throated Greenbul** was another species that had played hide and seek with us previously but finally showed well this morning. **Kemp's Longbill**, however, only gave us brief views and left us wanting a little more. **Finsch's Rufous Thrush**, **Red-vented Malimbe**, and **Magpie Mannikin** were all seen as well as we went along. Before long, our time was up, and we transitioned back to the hotel to collect our things and have an early lunch, before settling in for the drive up to Ho. Ho would be our last destination on the tour and our base for exploring the Kalakpa Reserve. We made good progress, arriving in the late afternoon, and settled in for the evening.

Day 20, 17th March 2023. Birding the Kalakpa Resource Reserve

The morning saw us arriving at the Kalakpa Resource Reserve. Here, we moved into the strange, dense lowland forests that run through this otherwise primarily savanna and woodland-dominated reserve. The peculiar Capuchin Babbler is one of the main specials of the forests here, and indeed, it would be our main target for the morning. It was unfortunately one of those slow days, and we battled for birds all round. We heard **Capuchin Babblers** off in the distance but frustratingly didn't get anywhere near seeing them, while the unique race of **Brown Illadopsis** occurring here likewise frustrated us by being heard only. An **Ahanta Spurfowl** in the track was a bonus, as were several **Guinea Turacos** bouncing above us, while another **Red-cheeked Wattle-eye** showed for the group. A calling **Narina Trogon** disappeared before we could find it, and we had to console ourselves with **Little Grey Greenbul**. The surrounding woodland and mixed savanna produced a few **Brown-necked Parrot** flybys. At the same time, a group of **White-crested Helmetshrikes** showed well, and both **Striped Kingfisher** and the delightful **Blue-bellied Roller** were also enjoyed. We were able to entice a party of **Stone Partridges** out into the open, but try as we might, the forests were very quiet, and we decided to try again the following morning.



Yellow-crowned Gonoleks were common in scrubby vegetation on the tour.

Our customary midday break and siesta broke the day up, before we returned in the late afternoon for some birding and an owling session on the reserve edges. The afternoon was again very quiet, though a vocal **Moustached Grass Warbler** with its explosive calls and a bright **Splendid Sunbird** gave us something to look at. **Double-banded Spurfowls** scuttled about the roadside edges while comical **Western Plantain-eaters** jumped about the trees, but little else was out that we hadn't seen before. Eventually, as night approached, we set about looking for nightjars, and we were more successful finding several **Long-tailed Nightjars**, along with singletons of both **Fiery-necked** and **Plain Nightjars**, while the eerie cries of **Benin Tree Hyraxes** rang out. We eventually called it a night, and returned to our comfortable hotel for the evening.

Day 21, 18th March 2023. Final Kalakpa birding, and transfer to Accra

This was to be our final full day of the tour, and an early start saw us heading off into the strange forests in the Kalakpa Resource Reserve, searching for our main target, Capuchin Babbler, once more. The area was much birdier today, and a wealth of bird song greeted us. Try as we might, we just could not find any **Capuchin Babblers** and right as we were out of time, and about to make our way back out of the forest, we finally heard one. It was all in vain, however, as it quickly disappeared before any of us could get views. Bright **Forest Robins** showed exceptionally well for all of us during the morning, and we were all able to enjoy this species in the scope, which is quite something for this shy bird. The unique local race of **Brown Illadopsis** was seen to a greater or lesser extent, and we couldn't believe our good fortune when we lucked onto a roost of three **African Wood Owls**. Various others like **Guinea Turaco**, **Grey-headed Bristlebill**, **Grey Longbill**, and **Blue-breasted Kingfisher** were seen as we went along. The woodlands on the forest outskirts also yielded **Senegal Batis**, **Black-crowned Tchagra**, **Senegal Eremomela**, and new species like **European Pied Flycatcher**, **Whinchat**, and **Tree Pipit**. Slightly behind schedule, we scrambled out and back to the bus before settling in for the long drive back to Accra. A stop for lunch on the Volta River was pleasant enough, producing **Mangrove Sunbird** for some, but the bulk of the afternoon was spent fighting the traffic getting back into Accra. RT was departing this evening, so we had to ensure we were back in good time, and all worked out well with us arriving back to our comfortable Accra hotel in good time for a final meal together.

Day 22, 19th March 2023. Birding the University Botanical Gardens and departure

With the first group departures for the day only in the late afternoon, we headed out to the nearby University Botanical Gardens for a few hours of birding in the morning. This was an excellent area to wind down our birding, as we enjoyed our last looks at some iconic species like **Violet Turaco** and **Western Plantain-eater**. **Green Wood Hoopoes** foraged along the trunks of trees and the likes of **Brown Babblers**, **African Thrushes**, and **Long-tailed Glossy Starlings** foraged on the ground. We also enjoyed our last kingfishers, with **Woodland**, **Malachite**, and **African Pygmy Kingfishers** being seen, while a small dam produced a host of **Senegal Thick-knees**, along with the likes of **African Jacana** and **Striated** and **Squacco Herons**. After a good few hours of birding, we concluded the tour with lunch before going our separate ways.

I would like to thank all the participants who joined this set departure tour for contributing to making this tour the success it was.

Bird List - Following IOC 12.2

Birds 'heard only' are marked with (H) after the common name, all other species were seen.

The following notation after species names is used to show conservation status following the IUCN Red List:

CR = Critically Endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable.

| Common name | Scientific name |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Ducks, Geese, Swans (Anatidae) | |
| White-faced Whistling Duck | <i>Dendrocygna viduata</i> |
| Hartlaub's Duck | <i>Pteronetta hartlaubii</i> |
| African Pygmy Goose | <i>Nettapus auritus</i> |
| Guineafowl (Numididae) | |
| Helmeted Guineafowl | <i>Numida meleagris</i> |
| New World Quail (Odontophoridae) | |
| Stone Partridge | <i>Ptilopachus petrosus</i> |
| Pheasants & Allies (Phasianidae) | |
| White-throated Francolin (H) | <i>Campocolinus albogularis</i> |
| Ahanta Spurfowl | <i>Pternistis ahantensis</i> |
| Double-spurred Spurfowl | <i>Pternistis bicalcaratus</i> |
| Nightjars (Caprimulgidae) | |
| Black-shouldered Nightjar | <i>Caprimulgus nigriscapularis</i> |
| Plain Nightjar | <i>Caprimulgus inornatus</i> |
| Long-tailed Nightjar | <i>Caprimulgus climacurus</i> |
| Swifts (Apodidae) | |
| Mottled Spinetail | <i>Telacanthura ussheri</i> |
| Black Spinetail | <i>Telacanthura melanopygia</i> |
| Sabine's Spinetail | <i>Rhaphidura sabini</i> |
| African Palm Swift | <i>Cypsiurus parvus</i> |
| Common Swift | <i>Apus apus</i> |
| Little Swift | <i>Apus affinis</i> |
| Turacos (Musophagidae) | |
| Great Blue Turaco (H) | <i>Corythaeola cristata</i> |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Western Plantain-eater | <i>Crinifer piscator</i> |
| Violet Turaco | <i>Tauraco violaceus</i> |
| Yellow-billed Turaco | <i>Tauraco macrorhynchus</i> |
| Guinea Turaco | <i>Tauraco persa</i> |
| Cuckoos (Cuculidae) | |
| Black-throated Coucal | <i>Centropus leucogaster</i> |
| Senegal Coucal | <i>Centropus senegalensis</i> |
| Blue-headed Coucal | <i>Centropus monachus</i> |
| Blue Malkoha | <i>Ceuthmochares aereus</i> |
| Levaillant's Cuckoo | <i>Clamator levaillantii</i> |
| Diederik Cuckoo | <i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i> |
| Klaas's Cuckoo | <i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i> |
| Yellow-throated Cuckoo | <i>Chrysococcyx flavigularis</i> |
| African Emerald Cuckoo | <i>Chrysococcyx cupreus</i> |
| Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo | <i>Cercococcyx olivinus</i> |
| Black Cuckoo | <i>Cuculus clamosus</i> |
| Red-chested Cuckoo (H) | <i>Cuculus solitarius</i> |
| African Cuckoo | <i>Cuculus gularis</i> |
| Sandgrouse (Pteroclididae) | |
| Four-banded Sandgrouse | <i>Pterocles quadricinctus</i> |
| Pigeons, Doves (Columbidae) | |
| Rock Dove | <i>Columba livia</i> |
| Speckled Pigeon | <i>Columba guinea</i> |
| Afep Pigeon (H) | <i>Columba uncinata</i> |
| Western Bronze-naped Pigeon | <i>Columba iriditorques</i> |
| Mourning Collared Dove | <i>Streptopelia decipiens</i> |
| Red-eyed Dove | <i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i> |
| Vinaceous Dove | <i>Streptopelia vinacea</i> |
| Laughing Dove | <i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i> |
| Black-billed Wood Dove | <i>Turtur abyssinicus</i> |
| Blue-spotted Wood Dove | <i>Turtur afer</i> |
| Tambourine Dove | <i>Turtur tympanistris</i> |
| Blue-headed Wood Dove | <i>Turtur brehmeri</i> |
| Namaqua Dove | <i>Oena capensis</i> |
| Bruce's Green Pigeon | <i>Treron waalia</i> |
| African Green Pigeon | <i>Treron calvus</i> |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Flufftails (Sarothruridae) | |
| White-spotted Flufftail (H) | <i>Sarothrura pulchra</i> |
| Rails, Crakes & Coots (Rallidae) | |
| Common Moorhen | <i>Gallinula chloropus</i> |
| Allen's Gallinule | <i>Porphyrio alleni</i> |
| African Swamphen | <i>Porphyrio madagascariensis</i> |
| Black Crake | <i>Zapornia flavirostra</i> |
| Nkulengu Rail | <i>Himantornis haematopus</i> |
| Grebes (Podicipedidae) | |
| Little Grebe | <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> |
| Buttonquail (Turnicidae) | |
| Common Buttonquail | <i>Turnix sylvaticus</i> |
| Stone-curlews, Thick-knees (Burhinidae) | |
| Senegal Thick-knee | <i>Burhinus senegalensis</i> |
| Plovers (Charadriidae) | |
| Spur-winged Lapwing | <i>Vanellus spinosus</i> |
| Black-headed Lapwing | <i>Vanellus tectus</i> |
| African Wattled Lapwing | <i>Vanellus senegallus</i> |
| Grey Plover | <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> |
| Common Ringed Plover | <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> |
| Forbes's Plover | <i>Charadrius forbesi</i> |
| Egyptian Plover (Pluvianidae) | |
| Egyptian Plover | <i>Pluvianus aegyptius</i> |
| Painted-snipes (Rostratulidae) | |
| Greater Painted-snipe | <i>Rostratula benghalensis</i> |
| Jacanas (Jacanidae) | |
| African Jacana | <i>Actophilornis africanus</i> |
| Sandpipers, Snipes (Scolopacidae) | |
| Eurasian Whimbrel | <i>Numenius phaeopus</i> |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Bar-tailed Godwit | <i>Limosa lapponica</i> |
| Ruddy Turnstone | <i>Arenaria interpres</i> |
| Curlew Sandpiper | <i>Calidris ferruginea</i> |
| Sanderling | <i>Calidris alba</i> |
| Common Sandpiper | <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i> |
| Green Sandpiper | <i>Tringa ochropus</i> |
| Wood Sandpiper | <i>Tringa glareola</i> |
| Common Greenshank | <i>Tringa nebularia</i> |
| Couriers, Pratincoles (Glareolidae) | |
| Rock Pratincole | <i>Glareola nuchalis</i> |
| Gulls, Terns, Skimmers (Laridae) | |
| West African Crested Tern | <i>Thalasseus albididorsalis</i> |
| Sandwich Tern | <i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i> |
| Common Tern | <i>Sterna hirundo</i> |
| Black Tern | <i>Chlidonias niger</i> |
| Storks (Ciconiidae) | |
| Woolly-necked Stork | <i>Ciconia episcopus</i> |
| Cormorants, Shags (Phalacrocoracidae) | |
| Reed Cormorant | <i>Microcarbo africanus</i> |
| Ibises, Spoonbills (Threskiornithidae) | |
| Hadada Ibis | <i>Bostrychia hagedash</i> |
| Hérons, Bitterns (Ardeidae) | |
| Striated Heron | <i>Butorides striata</i> |
| Squacco Heron | <i>Ardeola ralloides</i> |
| Western Cattle Egret | <i>Bubulcus ibis</i> |
| Grey Heron | <i>Ardea cinerea</i> |
| Black-headed Heron | <i>Ardea melanocephala</i> |
| Great Egret | <i>Ardea alba</i> |
| Intermediate Egret | <i>Ardea intermedia</i> |
| Little Egret | <i>Egretta garzetta</i> |
| Western Reef Heron | <i>Egretta gularis</i> |
| Hamerkop (Scopidae) | |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Hamerkop | <i>Scopus umbretta</i> |
| Kites, Hawks, Eagles (Accipitridae) | |
| Black-winged Kite | <i>Elanus caeruleus</i> |
| African Harrier-Hawk | <i>Polyboroides typus</i> |
| Palm-nut Vulture | <i>Gypohierax angolensis</i> |
| European Honey Buzzard | <i>Pernis apivorus</i> |
| African Cuckoo-Hawk | <i>Aviceda cuculoides</i> |
| Hooded Vulture - CR | <i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i> |
| White-backed Vulture - CR | <i>Gyps africanus</i> |
| White-headed Vulture - CR | <i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i> |
| Congo Serpent Eagle (H) | <i>Dryotriorchis spectabilis</i> |
| Bateleur - EN | <i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i> |
| Ayres's Hawk-Eagle | <i>Hieraaetus ayresii</i> |
| Cassin's Hawk-Eagle | <i>Aquila africana</i> |
| Lizard Buzzard | <i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i> |
| Gabar Goshawk | <i>Micronisus gabar</i> |
| Dark Chanting Goshawk | <i>Melierax metabates</i> |
| Long-tailed Hawk | <i>Urotriorchis macrourus</i> |
| Red-chested Goshawk | <i>Accipiter toussenelii</i> |
| Shikra | <i>Accipiter badius</i> |
| Red-thighed Sparrowhawk | <i>Accipiter erythropus</i> |
| Ovambo Sparrowhawk | <i>Accipiter ovampensis</i> |
| Western Marsh Harrier | <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> |
| Black Kite | <i>Milvus migrans</i> |
| Yellow-billed Kite | <i>Milvus aegyptius</i> |
| African Fish Eagle | <i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i> |
| Grasshopper Buzzard | <i>Butastur rufipennis</i> |
| Red-necked Buzzard | <i>Buteo auguralis</i> |
| Owls (Strigidae) | |
| Pearl-spotted Owlet (H) | <i>Glaucidium perlatum</i> |
| Red-chested Owlet (H) | <i>Glaucidium tephronotum</i> |
| African Scops Owl (H) | <i>Otus senegalensis</i> |
| Fraser's Eagle-Owl | <i>Bubo poensis</i> |
| Akun Eagle-Owl (H) | <i>Bubo leucostictus</i> |
| African Wood Owl | <i>Strix woodfordii</i> |
| Trogon (Trogonidae) | |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Narina Trogon (H) | <i>Apaloderma narina</i> |
| Wood Hoopoes (Phoeniculidae) | |
| Green Wood Hoopoe | <i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i> |
| Hornbills (Bucerotidae) | |
| Northern Red-billed Hornbill | <i>Tockus erythrorhynchus</i> |
| African Pied Hornbill | <i>Lophoceros fasciatus</i> |
| African Grey Hornbill | <i>Lophoceros nasutus</i> |
| Red-billed Dwarf Hornbill | <i>Lophoceros camurus</i> |
| Piping Hornbill | <i>Bycanistes fistulator</i> |
| Brown-cheeked Hornbill - VU | <i>Bycanistes cylindricus</i> |
| Black-casqued Hornbill (H) | <i>Ceratogymna atrata</i> |
| Yellow-casqued Hornbill - VU | <i>Ceratogymna elata</i> |
| Black Dwarf Hornbill | <i>Horizocerus hartlaubi</i> |
| White-crested Hornbill | <i>Horizocerus albocristatus</i> |
| Rollers (Coraciidae) | |
| Purple Roller | <i>Coracias naevius</i> |
| Abyssinian Roller | <i>Coracias abyssinicus</i> |
| Blue-bellied Roller | <i>Coracias cyanogaster</i> |
| Blue-throated Roller | <i>Eurystomus gularis</i> |
| Broad-billed Roller | <i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i> |
| Kingfishers (Alcedinidae) | |
| Chocolate-backed Kingfisher | <i>Halcyon badia</i> |
| Grey-headed Kingfisher | <i>Halcyon leucocephala</i> |
| Striped Kingfisher | <i>Halcyon chelicuti</i> |
| Blue-breasted Kingfisher | <i>Halcyon malimbica</i> |
| Woodland Kingfisher | <i>Halcyon senegalensis</i> |
| African Dwarf Kingfisher (H) | <i>Ispidina lecontei</i> |
| African Pygmy Kingfisher | <i>Ispidina picta</i> |
| White-bellied Kingfisher | <i>Corythornis leucogaster</i> |
| Malachite Kingfisher | <i>Corythornis cristatus</i> |
| Shining-blue Kingfisher | <i>Alcedo quadribrachys</i> |
| Pied Kingfisher | <i>Ceryle rudis</i> |
| Bee-eaters (Meropidae) | |
| Blue-moustached Bee-eater | <i>Merops mentalis</i> |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Black Bee-eater | <i>Merops gularis</i> |
| Little Bee-eater | <i>Merops pusillus</i> |
| Red-throated Bee-eater | <i>Merops bulocki</i> |
| White-throated Bee-eater | <i>Merops albicollis</i> |
| European Bee-eater | <i>Merops apiaster</i> |
| Rosy Bee-eater | <i>Merops malimbicus</i> |
| Northern Carmine Bee-eater | <i>Merops nubicus</i> |
| | |
| African Barbets (Lybiidae) | |
| Bristle-nosed Barbet | <i>Gymnobucco peli</i> |
| Naked-faced Barbet | <i>Gymnobucco calvus</i> |
| Speckled Tinkerbird | <i>Pogoniulus scolopaceus</i> |
| Red-rumped Tinkerbird | <i>Pogoniulus atroflavus</i> |
| Yellow-throated Tinkerbird | <i>Pogoniulus subsulphureus</i> |
| Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird | <i>Pogoniulus bilineatus</i> |
| Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird | <i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i> |
| Yellow-spotted Barbet | <i>Buccanodon duchaillui</i> |
| Hairy-breasted Barbet | <i>Tricholaema hirsuta</i> |
| Vieillot's Barbet | <i>Lybius vieilloti</i> |
| Double-toothed Barbet | <i>Lybius bidentatus</i> |
| Bearded Barbet | <i>Lybius dubius</i> |
| Yellow-billed Barbet | <i>Trachyphonus purpuratus</i> |
| | |
| Honeyguides (Indicatoridae) | |
| Cassin's Honeybird | <i>Prodotiscus insignis</i> |
| Yellow-footed Honeyguide | <i>Melignomon eisentrauti</i> |
| Lesser Honeyguide | <i>Indicator minor</i> |
| Spotted Honeyguide | <i>Indicator maculatus</i> |
| Greater Honeyguide | <i>Indicator indicator</i> |
| | |
| Woodpeckers (Picidae) | |
| African Piculet | <i>Sasia africana</i> |
| Buff-spotted Woodpecker | <i>Pardipicus nivosus</i> |
| Brown-eared Woodpecker | <i>Pardipicus caroli</i> |
| Fine-spotted Woodpecker | <i>Campethera punctuligera</i> |
| Fire-bellied Woodpecker | <i>Chloropicus pyrrhogaster</i> |
| Cardinal Woodpecker | <i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i> |
| African Grey Woodpecker | <i>Dendropicos goertae</i> |
| | |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Caracaras, Falcons (Falconidae) | |
| Common Kestrel | <i>Falco tinnunculus</i> |
| Fox Kestrel | <i>Falco alopex</i> |
| Grey Kestrel | <i>Falco ardosiaceus</i> |
| Red-necked Falcon | <i>Falco chicquera</i> |
| Lanner Falcon | <i>Falco biarmicus</i> |
| African & New World Parrots (Psittacidae) | |
| Grey Parrot - EN | <i>Psittacus erithacus</i> |
| Red-fronted Parrot | <i>Poicephalus gulielmi</i> |
| Brown-necked Parrot | <i>Poicephalus fuscicollis</i> |
| Senegal Parrot | <i>Poicephalus senegalus</i> |
| Old World Parrots (Psittaculidae) | |
| Rose-ringed Parakeet | <i>Psittacula krameri</i> |
| African & Green Broadbills (Calyptomenidae) | |
| Rufous-sided Broadbill | <i>Smithornis rufolateralis</i> |
| Wattle-eyes, Batises (Platysteiridae) | |
| Senegal Batis | <i>Batis senegalensis</i> |
| West African Batis | <i>Batis occulta</i> |
| West African Wattle-eye | <i>Platysteira hormophora</i> |
| Brown-throated Wattle-eye | <i>Platysteira cyanea</i> |
| Red-cheeked Wattle-eye | <i>Platysteira blissetti</i> |
| Bushshrikes (Malaconotidae) | |
| Grey-headed Bushshrike (H) | <i>Malaconotus blanchoti</i> |
| Orange-breasted Bushshrike | <i>Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus</i> |
| Marsh Tchagra (H) | <i>Bocagia minuta</i> |
| Brown-crowned Tchagra | <i>Tchagra australis</i> |
| Black-crowned Tchagra | <i>Tchagra senegalus</i> |
| Sabine's Puffback | <i>Dryoscopus sabini</i> |
| Northern Puffback | <i>Dryoscopus gambensis</i> |
| Lowland Sooty Boubou | <i>Laniarius leucorhynchus</i> |
| Yellow-crowned Gonolek | <i>Laniarius barbarus</i> |
| Brubru | <i>Nilaus afer</i> |
| Vangas & Allies (Vangidae) | |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|---|----------------------------------|
| White-crested Helmetshrike | <i>Prionops plumatus</i> |
| Red-billed Helmetshrike | <i>Prionops caniceps</i> |
| African Shrike-flycatcher | <i>Megabyas flammulatus</i> |
| Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher | <i>Bias musicus</i> |
| Cuckooshrikes (Campephagidae) | |
| Purple-throated Cuckooshrike | <i>Campephaga quiscalina</i> |
| Blue Cuckooshrike | <i>Cyanograucalus azureus</i> |
| Shrikes (Laniidae) | |
| Yellow-billed Shrike | <i>Corvinella corvina</i> |
| Northern Fiscal | <i>Lanius humeralis</i> |
| Figbirds, Old World Orioles, Piopios (Oriolidae) | |
| Western Oriole | <i>Oriolus brachyrynchus</i> |
| Black-winged Oriole | <i>Oriolus nigripennis</i> |
| African Golden Oriole | <i>Oriolus auratus</i> |
| Drongos (Dicuridae) | |
| Fanti Drongo | <i>Dicrurus atactus</i> |
| Glossy-backed Drongo | <i>Dicrurus divaricatus</i> |
| Shining Drongo | <i>Dicrurus atripennis</i> |
| Monarchs (Monarchidae) | |
| Blue-headed Crested Flycatcher (H) | <i>Trochocercus nitens</i> |
| Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher | <i>Terpsiphone rufiventer</i> |
| African Paradise Flycatcher | <i>Terpsiphone viridis</i> |
| Crows, Jays (Corvidae) | |
| Piapiac | <i>Ptilostomus afer</i> |
| Pied Crow | <i>Corvus albus</i> |
| Rockfowl (Picathartidae) | |
| White-necked Rockfowl - VU | <i>Picathartes gymnocephalus</i> |
| Fairy Flycatchers (Stenostiridae) | |
| African Blue Flycatcher | <i>Elminia longicauda</i> |
| Tits, Chickadees (Paridae) | |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|---|------------------------------------|
| White-shouldered Black Tit | <i>Melaniparus guineensis</i> |
| Penduline Tits (Remizidae) | |
| Forest Penduline Tit | <i>Anthoscopus flavifrons</i> |
| Nicators (Nicatoridae) | |
| Western Nicator | <i>Nicator chloris</i> |
| Larks (Alaudidae) | |
| Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark | <i>Eremopterix leucotis</i> |
| Sun Lark | <i>Galerida modesta</i> |
| Bulbuls (Pycnonotidae) | |
| Slender-billed Greenbul | <i>Stelgidillas gracilirostris</i> |
| Golden Greenbul | <i>Calyptocichla serinus</i> |
| Red-tailed Bristlebill (H) | <i>Bleda syndactylus</i> |
| Green-tailed Bristlebill (H) | <i>Bleda eximius</i> |
| Grey-headed Bristlebill | <i>Bleda canicapillus</i> |
| Yellow-throated Leaflove | <i>Atimastillas flavicollis</i> |
| Spotted Greenbul | <i>Ixonotus guttatus</i> |
| Swamp Palm Bulbul | <i>Thescelocichla leucopleura</i> |
| Simple Greenbul | <i>Chlorocichla simplex</i> |
| Honeyguide Greenbul (H) | <i>Baeopogon indicator</i> |
| Western Bearded Greenbul | <i>Criniger barbatus</i> |
| Red-tailed Greenbul | <i>Criniger calurus</i> |
| Yellow-bearded Greenbul - VU | <i>Criniger olivaceus</i> |
| Little Greenbul | <i>Eurillas virens</i> |
| Yellow-whiskered Greenbul | <i>Eurillas latirostris</i> |
| Plain Greenbul | <i>Eurillas curvirostris</i> |
| Little Grey Greenbul | <i>Eurillas gracilis</i> |
| Ansorge's Greenbul | <i>Eurillas ansorgei</i> |
| White-throated Greenbul | <i>Phyllastrephus albigularis</i> |
| Icterine Greenbul | <i>Phyllastrephus icterinus</i> |
| Common Bulbul | <i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i> |
| Swallows, Martins (Hirundinidae) | |
| Square-tailed Saw-wing | <i>Psalidoprocne nitens</i> |
| Fanti Saw-wing | <i>Psalidoprocne obscura</i> |
| Wire-tailed Swallow | <i>Hirundo smithii</i> |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|--|--------------------------------|
| White-bibbed Swallow | <i>Hirundo nigrita</i> |
| Barn Swallow | <i>Hirundo rustica</i> |
| Red-chested Swallow | <i>Hirundo lucida</i> |
| Ethiopian Swallow | <i>Hirundo aethiopica</i> |
| Red-breasted Swallow | <i>Cecropis semirufa</i> |
| Mosque Swallow | <i>Cecropis senegalensis</i> |
| Lesser Striped Swallow | <i>Cecropis abyssinica</i> |
| West African Swallow | <i>Cecropis domicella</i> |
| Preuss's Cliff Swallow | <i>Petrochelidon preussi</i> |
| Crombecs, African Warblers (Macrosphenidae) | |
| Moustached Grass Warbler | <i>Melocichla mentalis</i> |
| Kemp's Longbill | <i>Macrosphenus kempii</i> |
| Grey Longbill | <i>Macrosphenus concolor</i> |
| Northern Crombec | <i>Sylvietta brachyura</i> |
| Green Crombec | <i>Sylvietta virens</i> |
| Lemon-bellied Crombec | <i>Sylvietta denti</i> |
| Yellow Flycatchers (Erythroceridae) | |
| Chestnut-capped Flycatcher | <i>Erythrocerus mcallii</i> |
| Hylia (Hylidae) | |
| Green Hylia | <i>Hylia prasina</i> |
| Tit Hylia | <i>Pholidornis rushiae</i> |
| Leaf Warblers (Phylloscopidae) | |
| Wood Warbler | <i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i> |
| Willow Warbler | <i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i> |
| Reed Warblers & Allies (Acrocephalidae) | |
| Western Olivaceous Warbler | <i>Iduna opaca</i> |
| Cisticolas & Allies (Cisticolidae) | |
| Red-faced Cisticola | <i>Cisticola erythrops</i> |
| Singing Cisticola | <i>Cisticola cantans</i> |
| Whistling Cisticola | <i>Cisticola lateralis</i> |
| Rock-loving Cisticola | <i>Cisticola emini</i> |
| Winding Cisticola | <i>Cisticola marginatus</i> |
| Short-winged Cisticola | <i>Cisticola brachypterus</i> |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Rufous Cisticola | <i>Cisticola rufus</i> |
| Zitting Cisticola | <i>Cisticola juncidis</i> |
| Black-backed Cisticola | <i>Cisticola eximius</i> |
| Tawny-flanked Prinia | <i>Prinia subflava</i> |
| Red-winged Prinia | <i>Prinia erythroptera</i> |
| Yellow-breasted Apalis | <i>Apalis flavida</i> |
| Black-capped Apalis | <i>Apalis nigriceps</i> |
| Sharpe's Apalis | <i>Apalis sharpii</i> |
| Oriole Warbler (H) | <i>Hypergerus atriceps</i> |
| Grey-backed Camaroptera | <i>Camaroptera brevicaudata</i> |
| Yellow-browed Camaroptera | <i>Camaroptera superciliaris</i> |
| Olive-green Camaroptera | <i>Camaroptera chloronota</i> |
| Senegal Eremomela | <i>Eremomela pusilla</i> |
| Rufous-crowned Eremomela | <i>Eremomela badiceps</i> |
| Sylviid Babblers (Sylviidae) | |
| Garden Warbler | <i>Sylvia borin</i> |
| Common Whitethroat | <i>Curruca communis</i> |
| White-eyes (Zosteropidae) | |
| Northern Yellow White-eye | <i>Zosterops senegalensis</i> |
| Ground Babblers (Pellorneidae) | |
| Brown Illadopsis | <i>Illadopsis fulvescens</i> |
| Pale-breasted Illadopsis (H) | <i>Illadopsis rufipennis</i> |
| Blackcap Illadopsis | <i>Illadopsis cleaveri</i> |
| Puvel's Illadopsis | <i>Illadopsis puveli</i> |
| Laughingthrushes & Allies (Leiothrichidae) | |
| Capuchin Babbler (H) | <i>Turdoides atripennis</i> |
| Brown Babbler | <i>Turdoides plebejus</i> |
| Blackcap Babbler (H) | <i>Turdoides reinwardtii</i> |
| Hyliotas (Hylotiidae) | |
| Violet-backed Hyliota | <i>Hyliota violacea</i> |
| Treecreepers (Certhiidae) | |
| African Spotted Creeper (H) | <i>Salpornis salvadori</i> |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Starlings, Rhabdornises (Sturnidae) | |
| Copper-tailed Starling | <i>Hylopsar cupreocauda</i> |
| Greater Blue-eared Starling | <i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i> |
| Lesser Blue-eared Starling | <i>Lamprotornis chloropterus</i> |
| Splendid Starling | <i>Lamprotornis splendidus</i> |
| Purple Starling | <i>Lamprotornis purpureus</i> |
| Long-tailed Glossy Starling | <i>Lamprotornis caudatus</i> |
| Chestnut-bellied Starling | <i>Lamprotornis pulcher</i> |
| Violet-backed Starling | <i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i> |
| Chestnut-winged Starling | <i>Onychognathus fulgidus</i> |
| Narrow-tailed Starling | <i>Poeoptera lugubris</i> |
| Oxpeckers (Buphagidae) | |
| Yellow-billed Oxpecker | <i>Buphagus africanus</i> |
| Thrushes (Turdidae) | |
| Finsch's Rufous Thrush | <i>Stizorhina finschi</i> |
| White-tailed Ant Thrush | <i>Neocossyphus poensis</i> |
| African Thrush | <i>Turdus pelios</i> |
| Chats, Old World Flycatchers (Muscicapidae) | |
| White-tailed Alethe | <i>Alethe diademata</i> |
| Fraser's Forest Flycatcher | <i>Fraseria ocreata</i> |
| Grey-throated Tit-Flycatcher (H) | <i>Myioparus griseigularis</i> |
| Grey Tit-Flycatcher | <i>Myioparus plumbeus</i> |
| Northern Black Flycatcher | <i>Melaenornis edolioides</i> |
| Spotted Flycatcher | <i>Muscicapa striata</i> |
| Ashy Flycatcher | <i>Muscicapa caerulescens</i> |
| Swamp Flycatcher | <i>Muscicapa aquatica</i> |
| Cassin's Flycatcher | <i>Muscicapa cassini</i> |
| Little Grey Flycatcher | <i>Muscicapa epulata</i> |
| Dusky-blue Flycatcher | <i>Muscicapa comitata</i> |
| Tessmann's Flycatcher (H) | <i>Muscicapa tessmanni</i> |
| Ussher's Flycatcher | <i>Muscicapa ussheri</i> |
| Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat (H) | <i>Cossypha niveicapilla</i> |
| White-crowned Robin-Chat | <i>Cossypha albicapillus</i> |
| Forest Robin | <i>Stiphornis erythrothorax</i> |
| European Pied Flycatcher | <i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i> |
| Whinchat | <i>Saxicola rubetra</i> |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|---|----------------------------------|
| White-crowned Cliff Chat | <i>Thamnolaea coronata</i> |
| White-fronted Black Chat | <i>Oenanthe albifrons</i> |
| Sunbirds (Nectariniidae) | |
| Fraser's Sunbird | <i>Deleornis fraseri</i> |
| Little Green Sunbird | <i>Anthreptes seimundi</i> |
| Yellow-chinned Sunbird | <i>Anthreptes rectirostris</i> |
| Collared Sunbird | <i>Hedydipna collaris</i> |
| Pygmy Sunbird | <i>Hedydipna platura</i> |
| Reichenbach's Sunbird | <i>Anabathmis reichenbachii</i> |
| Green-headed Sunbird | <i>Cyanomitra verticalis</i> |
| Blue-throated Brown Sunbird | <i>Cyanomitra cyanolaema</i> |
| Olive Sunbird | <i>Cyanomitra olivacea</i> |
| Buff-throated Sunbird | <i>Chalcomitra adelberti</i> |
| Scarlet-chested Sunbird | <i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i> |
| Olive-bellied Sunbird | <i>Cinnyris chloropygius</i> |
| Tiny Sunbird | <i>Cinnyris minullus</i> |
| Beautiful Sunbird | <i>Cinnyris pulchellus</i> |
| Splendid Sunbird | <i>Cinnyris coccinigastrus</i> |
| Johanna's Sunbird | <i>Cinnyris johannae</i> |
| Superb Sunbird | <i>Cinnyris superbus</i> |
| Copper Sunbird | <i>Cinnyris cupreus</i> |
| Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches (Passeridae) | |
| Sahel Bush Sparrow | <i>Gymnoris dentata</i> |
| Northern Grey-headed Sparrow | <i>Passer griseus</i> |
| House Sparrow | <i>Passer domesticus</i> |
| Weavers, Widowbirds (Ploceidae) | |
| White-billed Buffalo Weaver | <i>Bubalornis albirostris</i> |
| Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver | <i>Plocepasser superciliosus</i> |
| Thick-billed Weaver | <i>Amblyospiza albifrons</i> |
| Little Weaver | <i>Ploceus luteolus</i> |
| Black-necked Weaver | <i>Ploceus nigricollis</i> |
| Orange Weaver | <i>Ploceus aurantius</i> |
| Vitelline Masked Weaver | <i>Ploceus vitellinus</i> |
| Village Weaver | <i>Ploceus cucullatus</i> |
| Vieillot's Black Weaver | <i>Ploceus nigerrimus</i> |
| Black-headed Weaver | <i>Ploceus melanocephalus</i> |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Yellow-mantled Weaver | <i>Ploceus tricolor</i> |
| Maxwell's Black Weaver | <i>Ploceus albinucha</i> |
| Compact Weaver | <i>Ploceus superciliosus</i> |
| Preuss's Weaver (H) | <i>Ploceus preussi</i> |
| Red-vented Malimbe | <i>Malimbus scutatus</i> |
| Blue-billed Malimbe | <i>Malimbus nitens</i> |
| Red-headed Malimbe | <i>Malimbus rubricollis</i> |
| Crested Malimbe | <i>Malimbus malimbicus</i> |
| Red-headed Quelea | <i>Quelea erythrops</i> |
| Red-billed Quelea | <i>Quelea quelea</i> |
| Black-winged Red Bishop | <i>Euplectes hordeaceus</i> |
| Northern Red Bishop | <i>Euplectes franciscanus</i> |
| Yellow-mantled Widowbird | <i>Euplectes macroura</i> |
| Waxbills, Munias & Allies (Estrildidae) | |
| Bronze Mannikin | <i>Spermestes cucullata</i> |
| Magpie Mannikin | <i>Spermestes fringilloides</i> |
| Black-and-white Mannikin | <i>Spermestes bicolor</i> |
| African Silverbill | <i>Euodice cantans</i> |
| White-breasted Nigrita | <i>Nigrita fusconotus</i> |
| Chestnut-breasted Nigrita | <i>Nigrita bicolor</i> |
| Grey-headed Nigrita | <i>Nigrita canicapillus</i> |
| Lavender Waxbill | <i>Glaucostrelda caerulea</i> |
| Orange-cheeked Waxbill | <i>Estrilda melpoda</i> |
| Black-rumped Waxbill | <i>Estrilda troglodytes</i> |
| Quailfinch | <i>Ortygospiza atricollis</i> |
| Cut-throat Finch | <i>Amadina fasciata</i> |
| Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu | <i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i> |
| Western Bluebill | <i>Spermophaga haematina</i> |
| Black-bellied Seedcracker | <i>Pyrenestes ostrinus</i> |
| Red-winged Pytilia | <i>Pytilia phoenicoptera</i> |
| Red-billed Firefinch | <i>Lagonosticta senegala</i> |
| African Firefinch | <i>Lagonosticta rubricata</i> |
| Bar-breasted Firefinch | <i>Lagonosticta rufopicta</i> |
| Black-faced Firefinch | <i>Lagonosticta larvata</i> |
| Indigobirds, Whydahs (Viduidae) | |
| Pin-tailed Whydah | <i>Vidua macroura</i> |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Wagtails, Pipits (Motacillidae) | |
| African Pied Wagtail | <i>Motacilla aguimp</i> |
| Plain-backed Pipit | <i>Anthus leucophrys</i> |
| Tree Pipit | <i>Anthus trivialis</i> |
| Finches, Euphonias (Fringillidae) | |
| White-rumped Seedeater | <i>Crithagra leucopygia</i> |
| Yellow-fronted Canary | <i>Crithagra mozambica</i> |
| Buntings (Emberizidae) | |
| Gosling's Bunting | <i>Emberiza goslingi</i> |
| Brown-rumped Bunting | <i>Emberiza affinis</i> |

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Species seen: | 396 |
| Species heard: | 28 |
| Total recorded: | 424 |

Mammal List

Mammals 'heard only' are marked with (H) after the common name, all other species were seen.

The following notation after species names is used to show conservation status following the IUCN Red List:

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

| Common name | Scientific name |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Hyraxes (Procaviidae) | |
| Western Tree Hyrax (H) | <i>Dendrohyrax dorsalis</i> |
| Benin Tree Hyrax (H) | <i>Dendrohyrax interfluvialis</i> |
| Elephants (Elephantidae) | |
| African Elephant - EN | <i>Loxodonta africana</i> |
| Rabbits and Hares (Leporidae) | |
| African Savanna Hare | <i>Lepus victoriae</i> |
| Old World Porcupine (Hystricidae) | |
| North African Crested Porcupine | <i>Hystrix cristata</i> |

| Common name | Scientific name |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Cane Rats (Thryonomyidae) | |
| Greater Cane Rat | <i>Thryonomys swinderianus</i> |
| Squirrels and Relatives (Sciuridae) | |
| Striped Ground Squirrel | <i>Euxerus erythropus</i> |
| Small Sun Squirrel - DD | <i>Heliosciurus punctatus</i> |
| Isabelline Red-legged Sun Squirrel (H) | <i>Heliosciurus rufobrachium</i> |
| African Giant Squirrel | <i>Protoxerus stangeri</i> |
| Fire-footed Rope Squirrel (H) | <i>Funisciurus pyrropus</i> |
| Green Bush Squirrel | <i>Paraxerus poensis</i> |
| Bushbabies (Galagidae) | |
| Demidoff's Dwarf Galago (H) | <i>Galagoides demidoff</i> |
| Old World Monkeys (Cercopithecidae) | |
| Olive Baboon | <i>Papio anubis</i> |
| Common Patas Monkey | <i>Erythrocebus patas</i> |
| Green Monkey | <i>Chlorocebus sabaeus</i> |
| Bats (Chiroptera) | |
| African Straw-coloured Fruit-bat | <i>Eidolon helvum</i> |
| Hogs and Pigs (Suidae) | |
| Common Warthog | <i>Phacochoerus africanus</i> |
| Bovids (Bovidae) | |
| Western Bushbuck | <i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i> |
| Kob | <i>Kobus kob</i> |
| Roan Antelope | <i>Hippotragus equinus</i> |

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|----------------------|-----------|
| Species seen: | 16 |
| Species heard: | 5 |
| Total recorded: | 21 |