

ZIMBABWE: AFRICAN PITTA, MIOMBO WOODLANDS & EASTERN HIGHLANDS SET DEPARTURE TRIP REPORT

21 NOVEMBER – 03 DECEMBER 2024

By Dominic Rollinson



We had several good looks at the tour's major target, African Pitta, in Mana Pools.



Overview

This Zimbabwe birding tour took in a good cross-section of this bird-rich southern African country, which meant we were able to amass an impressive bird list while also enjoying many large and charismatic mammals. As the name of this tour suggests, the trip was first and foremost designed around finding the elusive and enigmatic African Pitta, which is only realistically possible in late November up until mid-December in southern Africa. To find pittas we visited Mana Pools National Park in northern Zimbabwe, a wildlife haven in the Zambezi River valley, which is a prime breeding ground for African Pitta. From northern Zimbabwe we made our way back south to the capital, Harare, where we spent time birding in miombo woodlands, looking for a suite of range-restricted miombo specials. Our 13-day trip ended with a few days in the Eastern Highlands, where we targeted several range-restricted Afromontane specials, such as Swynnerton's Robin, Red-faced Crimsonwing and White-tailed Crested Flycatcher.

We recorded 363 bird species on this Zimbabwe birding tour, with many highlight species being seen. Some of our standout species included African Pitta, Lilian's Lovebird, Livingstone's Flycatcher, Dickinson's Kestrel, Red-necked Falcon, Three-banded Courser, Livingstone's Turaco, Racket-tailed Roller, Boulder Chat, African Spotted Creeper, Miombo Rock Thrush, Southern Hyliota, Swynnerton's Robin, Red-faced Crimsonwing, White-tailed Crested Flycatcher, Stripe-cheeked Greenbul, Pallid Honeyguide, Moustached Grass Warbler, Red-winged Prinia, Chirinda Apalis and Roberts's Warbler.



African Wild Dog was a big mammalian highlight while in Mana Pools.

We also found an impressive array of mammals on this tour, with our time in Mana Pools being particularly productive. Some of the highlights on the mammal front included **African Wild**



Dog, Side-striped Jackal, Lion, African Savanna Elephant, Sharpe's Grysbok, Mutable Sun Squirrel, Blue Monkey, Southern Lesser Galago, Common Hippopotamus, Common Eland and Giraffe.

A detailed daily account can be read below, with the full bird, mammal and reptile lists located at the end of the report.

Detailed Report

Day 1, 21st November 2024. Arrival and afternoon birding in Harare

As Curt and Christiane had arrived the previous day, we decided to get an early start with our birding and headed out to Mukuvisi Woodlands, on the outskirts of Harare, to get started with our miombo birding. Upon our arrival in the woodlands the birding activity was high, and we quickly got the bird list started. Some of our more exciting finds during our morning at Mukuvisi included Whyte's Barbet, African Golden Oriole, White-crested Helmetshrike, White-breasted Cuckooshrike, Lesser Blue-eared Starling (a recent lump with Miombo Blue-eared Starling) and Eastern Miombo Sunbird. The small dam further held White-faced Whistling Duck, Black Crake, African Wattled Lapwing, Hamerkop and African Yellow Warbler. A single Bronze-winged Courser on the edge of the miombo woodland was an unexpected find.



African Yellow Warbler duly obliged around Harare.

Later that afternoon we headed out to Monavale Marsh to look for a few wetland species. The marsh was mostly dry, nevertheless, the surrounding areas held **Senegal Coucal**, **Gabar**



Goshawk, Levaillant's Cisticola, African Yellow, Little Rush and Common Reed Warblers, Yellow Bishop, White-winged, Yellow-mantled and Red-collared Widowbirds and Orange-breasted Waxbill. We then headed back to our guest house in Harare after what had been a good introduction to Zimbabwean birding.

Day 2, 22nd November 2024. Transfer to Mana Pools – AFRICAN PITTAS!

We had an early start today as we were to make the long drive north to Mana Pools National Park. As we left Harare, we found a few interesting species such as **Black-winged Kite**, **Black-headed Heron** and **Abdim's** and **White Storks**. The drive was mostly uneventful, with the road steadily deteriorating as we made our way north.

Around midday we arrived at the entrance gate to Mana Pools and, as we were filling in our paperwork, we added our first **Mottled Spinetail** and **Crowned Hornbill** of the trip. Shortly afterwards we met up with Jim and Liam, our expert local guides who would be hosting us at Mhara River Camp for the next four nights. We hopped into the open-top safari vehicle (which would be our own private vehicle for our time around Mana Pools) and drove the remaining two hours to camp. Despite the heat of the day, it was difficult to not get excited by the new birds continually showing for us and a few stops along the way added **Meves's Starling**, **Southern Red-billed Hornbill** and **Brown Snake Eagle**.



Our initial views of African Pitta were rather obstructed by thick riverine vegetation.

We eventually made it to Mhara River Camp where we enjoyed a tasty lunch and then jumped back into the vehicle for our first proper birding drive. We went straight down to the thick riverside vegetation, where we soon found **African Broadbill** and were really excited to hear



displaying **African Pitta**. After much careful positioning we laid eyes on a pair of these most wanted and enigmatic species. The views were satisfactory, however, we were hoping for something a little better and decided we would revisit this pair over the next few days.

Days 3-5, 23rd-25th November 2024. Mana Pools birding

The next three full days were spent birding around Mhara River Camp's private concession (which we had entirely to ourselves) or birding at Mana Pools itself. Our days generally involved very early pre-dawn starts with an open-top safari drive, which ended in the late morning, after which we would enjoy some downtime during the heat of the day. In the late afternoons we enjoyed another safari drive which ended with sundowners and a bit of a night drive.

Birding around Mhara River Camp's private concession was exceptional and over the next few mornings and late afternoons we concentrated on improving our African Pitta views. With patience and hard work we eventually all had amazing looks at these brightly colored yet difficult-to-see targets. Other top-quality species seen while birding the riverine vegetation included Southern Crested Guineafowl, Natal Spurfowl, Crowned Hornbill, Livingstone's Flycatcher, African Broadbill, Broad-billed Roller, Red-throated Twinspot, African Golden Oriole, White-crested Helmetshrike, Tropical Boubou, Bearded Scrub Robin, Southern Yellow White-eye and Green-winged Pytilia.



African Hawk-Eagles were regularly seen in the Mhara concession.

In the more open areas while birding along dry riverbeds, we further added African Hawk-Eagle, Tawny and Booted Eagles, Dickinson's Kestrel (well spotted by Angie), Augur Buzzard, Double-banded Sandgrouse, Swainson's Spurfowl, Grey-headed Kingfisher,



Southern Carmine and White-fronted Bee-eaters, Mottled Spinetail, Racket-tailed Roller, Levaillant's, Jacobin and Black Cuckoos, Mosque Swallow, Meyer's Parrot and Meves's Starling.

The woodlands held small flocks of one of our other major targets, Lilian's Lovebird, which were frequently seen flying noisily by. These woodlands also held Brown Snake Eagle, Pearlspotted Owlet, Grey Go-away-bird, Eurasian Hoopoe, Green Wood Hoopoe, Common Scimitarbill, Grey-headed Bushshrike, Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird and Brown-crowned Tchagra. We encountered decent numbers of animals in these areas including Bush Hyrax, African Buffalo, African Elephant, Lion, Kudu, Klipspringer and Sharpe's Grysbok.



Lilian's Lovebird, another major target around Mana Pools.

We spent an enjoyable day out at Mana Pools itself, along the Zambezi River, which was just full of birds. The drive to Mana Pools added Bat Hawk, Martial Eagle, Shikra, Eurasian Hobby, Amur Falcon, Black Stork, Arnot's Chat, Eurasian Golden Oriole, and Cinnamonbreasted Bunting. Birding the various pools and the Zambezi floodplain at Mana Pools was exceptional and added many new birds to the trip list. Some of our highlights here included Bohm's Spinetail, Water Thick-knee, White-crowned Lapwing, Saddle-billed Stork, Little Heron, Goliath Heron, White-headed, Lappet-faced, White-backed and Hooded Vultures, Woodland Kingfisher, Lilac-breasted Roller, Bearded and Bennett's Woodpecker, Retz's Helmetshrike, Red-billed Oxpecker and White-browed Sparrow-Weaver.

It was not all about birding today though, as we tried our best to track down **African Wild Dogs**, which had been seen in the area over the last few weeks. After a few hours in the area, we eventually struck gold when Liam spotted some distant shapes, which turned out to be a pack of **African Wild Dogs**. We quietly approached on foot (approaching animals on foot with a ranger



is allowed in Mana Pools) and were able to sit nearby to a small pack of dogs, which were completely at ease with our presence – a surreal experience and Larry's most wanted animal of the trip! While watching the dogs, we had further good looks at a few **Hooded Vultures**, which often accompany the dogs. The impressive woodlands held good numbers of **African Elephants**, although we did not get the hoped-for looks of male elephants standing on their hind legs to feed from the tall woodlands. Other interesting wildlife seen here included **Giraffe**, **Chacma Baboon**, **Side-striped Jackal**, **Common Eland**, **Impala** and **Waterbuck**.

We enjoyed night drives on most evenings during our time at Mhara River Camp, where we came across some exciting nocturnal birds, such as **Pennant-winged** and **Square-tailed Nightjars**, **Verreaux's Eagle-Owl** and **Bronze-winged Courser**. Other nocturnal animals seen included **Large-spotted Genet**, **Southern Lesser Galago** and a group of three male **Lions**.

We were also kept on our toes with sightings of a couple of **Black Mambas** (a highly venomous snake) around the concession, much to Curt's delight!



Bat Hawk seen at its day roost near Mana Pools.

Day 6, 26th November 2024. Transfer to Harare

After four fantastic nights and days at Mhara River Camp we bade farewell to Jim, Liam and the Mhara team and slowly made our way back south towards Harare. On our final game drive out of camp, we saw good numbers of **Long-tailed Paradise Whydahs** and said goodbye to the ubiquitous **Meves's Starlings** and **Southern Red-billed Hornbills** which we had become so familiar with over the last few days.

The drive back to Harare was mostly uneventful, nevertheless, we did include a late afternoon stop to look for **Rosy-throated Longclaw**, which duly obliged and provided good looks for us



all. Other distractions here included **Abdim's Stork**, **African Wattled Lapwing**, **Black-crowned Night Heron** and **Red-breasted Swallow**. We eventually made it back to our guest house in Harare in the late afternoon, excited about the prospect of the next couple of days of miombo birding.

Day 7, 27th November 2024. Harare birding

This morning we left early and headed to a nearby airstrip, where we birded the adjoining grassland and marshy areas. The birding here was great and over the next hour or so we added the likes of Rosy-throated, Cape and Yellow-throated Longclaws, Pale-crowned, Levaillant's, Croaking and Zitting Cisticolas, Yellow-mantled Widowbird, Quailfinch and Pin-tailed Whydah. The undoubted highlight was seeing an estimated 20 Marsh Owls which kept flushing from a nearby field, providing us with fantastic views – we even managed views of a bird sat in the grass!



Impressive numbers of Marsh Owls were seen outside of Harare.

Next up was miombo birding at nearby Christon Bank. As is often the case with miombo birding, we went through some very quiet periods over the next couple of hours, interspersed with some very productive and frenetic periods when we found bird parties which were full of feeding birds. Some of our highlights at Christon Bank included Boulder Chat (the star species here), Lizard Buzzard, Crested Barbet, Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird, Cardinal Woodpecker, Black Cuckooshrike, Southern Hyliota, Red-faced Crombec, Rock-loving Cisticola, Southern Yellow White-eye, Ashy Flycatcher, Eastern Miombo Sunbird, Striped Pipit and Streaky-headed Seedeater. After a good couple of hours of walking the paths through the miombo woodlands, we decided to head back to Harare for lunch.



After lunch we headed back out and this time made our way to the eastern edge of the city, where we birded Haka Park for the remainder of the afternoon. We spent our time here birding the miombo woodlands, grassland patches and small dam. The woodlands were mostly quiet, but we did manage to eke out Whyte's Barbet, Purple-crested Turaco, White-crested Helmetshrike, Green-capped Eremomela, Bar-throated Apalis, Southern Yellow White-eye and Yellow-fronted Canary. The grassland and wetland areas further held White-backed Duck, Black Crake, African Snipe, Abdim's Stork and a small flock of Orange-breasted Waxbills.



Boulder Chat was seen easily at Christon Bank.

Day 8, 28th November 2024. Harare to Eastern Highlands

We left Harare early this morning, as we wanted to bird Gosho Park, near Marondera, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) southwest of Harare, before things heated up too much. Gosho Park represents about the best miombo birding close to Harare and, as we were still missing many of the miombo specials, we ended up spending most of the morning birding here. As always, miombo birding is hard work but, thankfully, there were many feeding flocks around and our careful examination of these flocks paid off. Highlights throughout the morning included Striped Kingfisher, Whyte's Barbet, Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird, Lesser Honeyguide, White-breasted Cuckooshrike, Brubru, Southern Hyliota, Miombo Tit, Grey Penduline Tit, Pale Flycatcher, Mocking Cliff Chat, Eastern Miombo Sunbird, Wood, Striped and Tree Pipits, and Black-eared and Streaky-headed Seedeaters. We heard the high-pitched calls of African Spotted Creeper but, unfortunately, we could not lay eyes on this most-wanted special (for now). While birding around Gosho Park we also found the colorful Kirk's Agama clambering on the area's many granite 'koppies'.



We had our lunch en route to the eastern Highlands and managed to add a showy pair of **Jameson's Firefinch** as a nice bonus. We made a quick stop on the Christmas Pass at Cecil Kop Nature Reserve, above Mutare, to try to eke out a few more miombo targets. The woodlands were very quiet, but just before we left, we managed to find a calling **Miombo Rock Thrush** and then struck gold with a showy **Rufous-bellied Tit** (the recently lumped, Cinnamon-breasted subspecies) as well as a distant **Cabanis's Bunting**.



Cabanis's Bunting was frequently encountered in eastern Zimbabwe.

From here we ascended for the final hour or so into the Bvumba Mountains, adding **Cape Canary** and **Blue-spotted Wood Dove** on the drive, before taking it easy for the remainder of the afternoon around Seldomseen Cottages.

Day 9, 29th November 2024. Byumba Mountains birding

We awoke this morning to heavy rain and mist (Seldomseen living up to its name) which made birding tough, nevertheless, we persevered and managed to find many of our forest targets. Local bird guide, Bulawesi, joined us for the day and, with his expertise, we were in very safe hands. Birding around the grounds is always a great way to start the day and, despite the bad weather, we still managed to find Lemon, Tambourine and Blue-spotted Wood Doves, Livingstone's Turaco, Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird, Cape Batis, Olive and Black-fronted Bushshrikes, White-tailed Crested Flycatcher, Roberts's Warbler, Chirinda Apalis, Barratt's Warbler, Black Saw-wing, Stripe-cheeked and Yellow-streaked Greenbuls, Orange Ground and Olive Thrushes, Red-capped and Cape Robin-Chats, White-starred Robin, Olive, Bronze and Variable Sunbirds and Yellow-bellied Waxbill. The highlight of our pre-breakfast birding was a relatively showy Red-faced Crimsonwing, normally a nightmare to see, since they feed high



up in the forest canopy. Both **Swynnerton's Robin** and **Buff-spotted Flufftail** were heard calling but, unfortunately, neither would show for us. **Mutable Sun Squirrels** were also seen high up in the forest canopy.

After a tasty breakfast we headed out to bird a nearby patch of miombo woodland where African Spotted Creeper would be our major target. Bulawesi had recently seen a pair feeding a juvenile in this area and, after a while, we heard the high-pitched wispy calls of the creeper and, after a brief search, we found an adult feeding a begging juvenile. We watched the birds for a while as the juvenile followed the adult up and down the trunks of trees and had fantastic looks at this most-wanted miombo special. Other highlights seen in the woodlands included Brown-backed Honeybird, Southern Hyliota, Miombo Tit, Red-faced Crombec, Wailing Cisticola, Southern Yellow White-eye, Miombo Rock Thrush, Wood Pipit, Cabanis's Bunting and a few showy Western Violet-backed Sunbirds, which is often a very tricky species to track down! After we got back to our accommodation, Bulawesi showed us a juvenile Marshall's Dwarf Chameleon.



African Spotted Creeper took some finding but eventually showed well in the Bvumba Mountains.

It had been a long and wet morning out, but we had been highly successful, and after another enjoyable lunch we dried out around the fire and took some time off. Later that afternoon we headed out again with **Swynnerton's Robin** being the major target. Thankfully, Bulawesi knew the location of a few **Swynnerton's Robin** territories and after much work, we eventually managed to get looks at a male, although trying to photograph it was another story. In Bunga Forest we also found **Grey Cuckooshrike**, **Gorgeous Bushshrike**, **Livingstone's Turaco** and **Burchell's Coucal**. Birding the nearby grassland patches further added **Cape Grassbird**,



Wailing Cisticola and African Yellow Warbler. After a long day out, we headed back to Seldomseen Cottages for the evening.

Day 10, 30th November 2024. Byumba Mountains to Honde Valley

We woke up to slightly improved weather this morning which continued to improve as the morning progressed. We headed out before breakfast to try and find **Buff-spotted Flufftail** which were again calling in the nearby forest. Again, despite our best efforts, we could not lay eyes on these supreme forest skulkers. Some of us did, however, have our breakfast interrupted by a calling **Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon** which did a quick flyby for us.

It was then time to pack up, with a couple stops on our way out to try to improve our looks of **Swynnerton's Robin**. We again had brief looks, and somehow Shailesh managed a lovely shot of a smart male!

We then made our way back north through Mutare and headed into the picturesque and vast highlands of Nyanga National Park. As we drove through the rolling hills, we saw birds such as Long-crested Eagle and Southern Fiscal while a quick stop at a roadside dam added African Black Duck, Little Grebe, Malachite Kingfisher and White-throated Swallow. However, the reason for our trip to Nyanga was to find the rare Blue Swallow. We visited a known nest site and saw an adult Blue Swallow flying back and forth, as it busily chased off a Black Saw-wing which was likely trying to use its nest hole. Unfortunately, the Blue Swallow did not perch out in the open for us, but we did get good views as it flew around us. In the surrounding grasslands we also found Cape Grassbird, Wailing Cisticola and saw a couple African Olive Pigeons flying overhead.



We had good flight views of **Blue Swallow** in the Nyanga Highlands.



From Nyanga, we made the long drive back south and then through the Honde Valley. We eventually arrived at the beautifully set Aberfoyle Lodge after what had been a long day in the vehicle. As we were checking in, a couple massive **Silvery-cheeked Hornbills** flew overhead. A few of us stretched our legs with a walk around the golf course, where we saw **Palm-nut Vulture**, **Burchell's Coucal**, **Black-throated Wattle-eye** and **Mountain Wagtail**.

Day 11, 1st December 2024. Honde Valley birding

This morning we had our earliest start yet, as we headed to the nearby Katiyo Tea Estate to look for several lowland specials which are more typically associated with birding tours to Mozambique, but which are gettable in the Honde Valley. We arrived soon after sunrise and immediately got to work on finding our target species. Morgan, the local bird guide from Aberfoyle, was thankfully joining us this morning and his knowledge of the area's birds was invaluable. Highlights from our morning's birding around the tea estate included **Red-necked Spurfowl**, **Blue-spotted Wood Dove**, **Livingstone's Turaco**, **Corn Crake**, **Small Buttonquail**, **Red-necked Falcon**, **Pale Batis**, **Moustached Grass Warbler**, **Fan-tailed Grassbird**, **Red-winged Prinia**, **Singing** and **Short-winged Cisticolas**, **Holub's Golden Weaver**, **Black-winged** and **Yellow Bishops**, **African Firefinch** and **Cabanis's Bunting**. We tried hard for Lesser Seedcracker, but despite Morgan seeing them regularly over the last couple of weeks, they were a no-show today!



Little Spotted Woodpecker showed well in the Honde Valley.

We stopped at Pungwe Forest on the way back to the lodge and got lucky with an obliging pair of showy **Little Spotted Woodpeckers**. We got back to the Aberfoyle Lodge in the late morning and decided to have a quick look for **Pallid Honeyguide** before lunch. We immediately heard



the bird calling from a massive tree, but it wasn't showing easily, and we had to spend some time to eventually all lay eyes on it. Other birds seen while looking for the honeyguide included **Dark-backed Weaver** and **Grey Waxbill**.

After lunch we took some time off and waited at the feeder for seed-eating species to come down and feed. With patient waiting we managed to see **Red-throated** and **Green Twinspots**, **Magpie Mannikin** and more **Grey Waxbills**.



We enjoyed a variety of seedeaters at Aberfoyle Lodge, including this male **Red-throated Twinspot**.

That afternoon we headed out to nearby Wamba Marsh where we tried for Marsh Tchagra, without success, unfortunately the birds were just not around this afternoon. We did, however, have some good birding in the general area though and notched up **Tambourine Dove**, **Scarce**, **Mottled** and **White-rumped Swifts**, **Black-chested Snake Eagle**, **Eurasian Golden Oriole**, **Wire-tailed** and **Grey-rumped Swallows**, **Western House Martin** and **Black-and-white Mannikin**.

Day 12, 2nd December 2024. Transfer back to Harare

For our last bit of proper scheduled birding for the tour, we took a walk around the property to see what else we could eke out. Most of the species were repeat views from yesterday, with some of the highlights including Red-necked Spurfowl, African Pygmy Kingfisher, White-eared Barbet, Green-backed Woodpecker, Black-throated Wattle-eye, Black-fronted Bushshrike, Singing Cisticola, Yellow-streaked Greenbul, Mountain Wagtail and Cabanis's Bunting. A calling Narina Trogon played hide-and-seek with us, with only Shailesh laying eyes on the bird.



After breakfast, it was then time to hit the long road back to Harare. As we made our way out of the Honde Valley, Christiane spotted a perched **Augur Buzzard** which showed well for us. We made another quick stop at Pungwe Forest, which further added **Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher**, **Bearded Scrub Robin** and **Red-capped Robin-Chat**. We stopped in for an early lunch at a protea farm near Juliasdale but, unfortunately, without any proteas in bloom, there were none of the hoped-for Gurney's Sugarbirds around.

The rest of the long drive back to Harare went by uneventfully and we arrived back in the late afternoon tired, but content, after a wonderful few days in the Eastern Highlands of Zimbabwe, with just about all our target birds seen.

Day 13, 3rd December 2024. Departure from Harare

We didn't have any birding planned this morning and after our final breakfast we made our way to Harare Airport, where the tour ended. Thanks to everyone for making this tour such a successful and enjoyable one!



We had repeat views of a group of three male **Lions** near Mana Pools.



<u>Bird List – Following IOC (Version 15.1/February 2025)</u>

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

The following notation after species names is used to show conservation status following BirdLife International: CE = Critically Endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable.

Common name	Scientific name
Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl (An	atidae)
White-faced Whistling Duck	Dendrocygna viduata
Knob-billed Duck	Sarkidiornis melanotos
Egyptian Goose	Alopochen aegyptiaca
Spur-winged Goose	Plectropterus gambensis
African Black Duck	Anas sparsa
Red-billed Teal	Anas erythrorhyncha
Guineafowl (Numididae)	
Helmeted Guineafowl	Numida meleagris
Southern Crested Guineafowl	Guttera edouardi
Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies (Ph	ı
Crested Francolin	Ortygornis sephaena
Natal Spurfowl	Pternistis natalensis
Swainson's Spurfowl	Pternistis swainsonii
Red-necked Spurfowl	Pternistis afer
Pi(C-llil)	
Pigeons and Doves (Columbidae)	C-1
Rock Dove	Columba livia
African Olive Pigeon	Columba arquatrix
Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon Lemon Dove	Columba delegorguei
	Aplopelia larvata
Red-eyed Dove	Streptopelia semitorquata
Ring-necked Dove Laughing Dove	Streptopelia capicola
Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	Spilopelia senegalensis Turtur chalcospilos
Blue-spotted Wood Dove	1
Tambourine Dove	Turtur afer
Tambourme Dove	Turtur tympanistria
Sandgrouse (Pteroclidae)	
Double-banded Sandgrouse	Pterocles bicinctus
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Turacos (Musophagidae)	1
Grey Go-away-bird	Crinifer concolor
Purple-crested Turaco	Gallirex porphyreolophus
Livingstone's Turaco	Tauraco livingstonii







Scientific name

Plegadis falcinellus

Common name

Glossy Ibis

Ibises and Spoonbills (Threskiornithidae)



Kaupifalco monogrammicus

Lizard Buzzard

Common name	Scientific name
African Goshawk	Aerospiza tachiro
Little Sparrowhawk	Tachyspiza minulla
Shikra	Tachyspiza badia
Yellow-billed Kite	Milvus migrans
African Fish Eagle	Icthyophaga vocifer
Augur Buzzard	Buteo augur
Common Buzzard	Buteo buteo
Owls (Strigidae)	·
Verreaux's Eagle-Owl	Ketupa lactea
Pearl-spotted Owlet (H)	Glaucidium perlatum
African Barred Owlet (H)	Glaucidium capense
African Wood Owl (H)	Strix woodfordii
Marsh Owl	Asio capensis
Mousebirds (Coliidae)	
Speckled Mousebird	Colius striatus
Red-faced Mousebird	Urocolius indicus
Trogons (Trogonidae)	
Narina Trogon (H)	Apaloderma narina
Hoopoes (Upupidae)	
Eurasian Hoopoe	Upupa epops
Woodhoopoes and Scimitarbills (Pl	
Green Wood-hoopoe	Phoeniculus purpureus
Common Scimitarbill	Rhinopomastus cyanomelas
Hornbills (Bucerotidae)	
Crowned Hornbill	Lophoceros alboterminatus
African Grey Hornbill	Lophoceros nasutus
Southern Red-billed Hornbill	Tockus rufirostris
Silvery-cheeked Hornbill	Bycanistes brevis
Trumpeter Hornbill	Bycanistes bucinator
Bee-eaters (Meropidae)	Tas and a sa
White-fronted Bee-eater	Merops bullockoides
Little Bee-eater	Merops pusillus
European Bee-eater	Merops apiaster
Southern Carmine Bee-eater	Merops nubicoides
Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)	
Malachite Kingfisher	Corythornis cristatus



Common name	Scientific name
African Pygmy Kingfisher	Ispidina picta
Grey-headed Kingfisher	Halcyon leucocephala
Woodland Kingfisher	Halcyon senegalensis
Brown-hooded Kingfisher	Halcyon albiventris
Striped Kingfisher	Halcyon chelicuti
Pied Kingfisher	Ceryle rudis
2	
Rollers (Coraciidae)	
European Roller	Coracias garrulus
Lilac-breasted Roller	Coracias caudatus
Racket-tailed Roller	Coracias spatulatus
Broad-billed Roller	Eurystomus glaucurus
African Barbets (Lybiidae)	
Crested Barbet	Trachyphonus vaillantii
White-eared Barbet	Stactolaema leucotis
Whyte's Barbet	Stactolaema whytii
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	Pogoniulus bilineatus
Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	Pogoniulus chrysoconus
Black-collared Barbet	Lybius torquatus
Honeyguides (Indicatoridae)	
Brown-backed Honeybird	Prodotiscus regulus
Pallid Honeyguide	Indicator meliphilus
Lesser Honeyguide	Indicator minor
Greater Honeyguide	Indicator indicator
Woodpeckers (Picidae)	
Bearded Woodpecker	Chloropicus namaquus
Cardinal Woodpecker	Dendropicos fuscescens
Little Spotted Woodpecker	Campethera maculosa
Bennett's Woodpecker	Campethera bennettii
Golden-tailed Woodpecker	Campethera abingoni
Falcons and Caracaras (Falconidae)	
Dickinson's Kestrel	Falco dickinsoni
Red-necked Falcon	Falco chicquera
Amur Falcon	Falco amurensis
Eurasian Hobby	Falco subbuteo
Lanner Falcon	Falco biarmicus
Old World Parrots (Psittaculidae)	T
Lilian's Lovebird	Agapornis lilianae



Common name	Scientific name
New World and African Parrots (P	sittacidae)
Meyer's Parrot	Poicephalus meyeri
African and Green Broadbills (Cal	yptomenidae)
African Broadbill	Smithornis capensis
Pittas (Pittidae)	
African Pitta	Pitta angolensis
Cuckooshrikes (Campephagidae)	
Grey Cuckooshrike	Ceblepyris caesius
White-breasted Cuckooshrike	Ceblepyris pectoralis
Black Cuckooshrike	Campephaga flava
Old World Orioles (Oriolidae)	
Eurasian Golden Oriole	Oriolus oriolus
African Golden Oriole	Oriolus auratus
Black-headed Oriole	Oriolus larvatus
Wattle-eyes and Batises (Platysteir	idae)
Black-throated Wattle-eye	Platysteira peltata
Cape Batis	Batis capensis
Chinspot Batis	Batis molitor
Pale Batis	Batis soror
Vangas, Helmetshrikes, and Allies	
White-crested Helmetshrike	Prionops plumatus
Retz's Helmetshrike	Prionops retzii
Bushshrikes and Allies (Malaconot	,
Brubru	Nilaus afer
Black-backed Puffback	Dryoscopus cubla
Black-crowned Tchagra	Tchagra senegalus
Brown-crowned Tchagra	Tchagra australis
Tropical Boubou	Laniarius major
Gorgeous Bushshrike	Telophorus viridis
Orange-breasted Bushshrike (H)	Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus
Olive Bushshrike	Chlorophoneus olivaceus
Black-fronted Bushshrike	Chlorophoneus nigrifrons
Grey-headed Bushshrike	Malaconotus blanchoti
Drongos (Dicruridae)	
Square-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus ludwigii
Fork-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus adsimilis







Common name	Scientific name
Yellow-streaked Greenbul	Phyllastrephus flavostriatus
Terrestrial Brownbul	Phyllastrephus terrestris
common bulbul sp.	Pycnonotus barbatus
Loof Worklorg (Phyllogopidae)	
Leaf Warblers (Phylloscopidae) Willow Warbler	Dl11 1.:1
willow warbier	Phylloscopus trochilus
Yellow Flycatchers (Erythrocero	cidae)
Livingstone's Flycatcher	Erythrocercus livingstonei
White-eyes, Yuhinas, and Allies	(Zosteronidae)
Southern Yellow White-eye	Zosterops anderssoni
Southern Tenow Winte-cyc	Zosterops unaerssoni
Laughingthrushes and Allies (Le	eiothrichidae)
Arrow-marked Babbler	Turdoides jardineii
Snotted Cyconous (Salnounithida	a)
Spotted Creepers (Salpornithida	
African Spotted Creeper	Salpornis salvadori
Oxpeckers (Buphagidae)	
Red-billed Oxpecker	Buphagus erythroryncha
Starlings (Sturnidae)	
Common Myna	Acridotheres tristis
Violet-backed Starling	Cinnyricinclus leucogaster
Red-winged Starling	Onychognathus morio
Meves's Starling	Lamprotornis mevesii
Lesser Blue-eared Starling	Lamprotornis chloropterus
Cape Starling	Lamprotornis nitens
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Thrushes and Allies (Turdidae)	
Boulder Chat	Pinarornis plumosus
Orange Ground Thrush	Geokichla gurneyi
Kurrichane Thrush	Turdus libonyana
Olive Thrush	Turdus olivaceus
Old World Flycatchers (Muscica	unidae)
African Dusky Flycatcher	Muscicapa adusta
Spotted Flycatcher	Muscicapa striata
Marico Flycatcher	Bradornis mariquensis
Pale Flycatcher	Agricola pallidus
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Ashy Flycatcher Southern Black Flycatcher	Fraseria caerulescens Melaenornis pammelaina



Common name	Scientific name
White-browed Scrub Robin	Cercotrichas leucophrys
Cape Robin-Chat	Dessonornis caffer
White-browed Robin-Chat	Cossypha heuglini
Red-capped Robin-Chat	Cossypha natalensis
White-starred Robin	Pogonocichla stellata
Swynnerton's Robin - VU	Swynnertonia swynnertoni
Miombo Rock Thrush	Monticola angolensis
African Stonechat	Saxicola torquatus
Mocking Cliff Chat	Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris
Arnot's Chat	Myrmecocichla arnotti
Familiar Chat	Oenanthe familiaris
Sunbirds and Spiderhunters (Necta	
Western Violet-backed Sunbird	Anthreptes longuemarei
Collared Sunbird	Hedydipna collaris
Olive Sunbird	Cyanomitra olivacea
Amethyst Sunbird	Chalcomitra amethystina
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	Chalcomitra senegalensis
Bronze Sunbird	Nectarinia kilimensis
Eastern Miombo Sunbird	Cinnyris manoensis
White-bellied Sunbird	Cinnyris talatala
Variable Sunbird	Cinnyris venustus
Weavers and Allies (Ploceidae)	
White-browed Sparrow-Weaver	Plocepasser mahali
Red-headed Weaver	Anaplectes rubriceps
Spectacled Weaver	Ploceus ocularis
Holub's Golden Weaver	Ploceus xanthops
Lesser Masked Weaver	Ploceus intermedius
Southern Masked Weaver	Ploceus velatus
Village Weaver	Ploceus cucullatus
Dark-backed Weaver	Ploceus bicolor
Red-billed Quelea	Quelea quelea
Southern Red Bishop	Euplectes orix
Black-winged Red Bishop	Euplectes hordeaceus
Yellow Bishop	Euplectes capensis
White-winged Widowbird	Euplectes albonotatus
Yellow-mantled Widowbird	Euplectes macroura
Red-collared Widowbird	Euplectes ardens
Thick-billed Weaver	Amblyospiza albifrons
W-l-NI All' (E.4. 7 P.	
Waxbills and Allies (Estrildidae)	C
Bronze Mannikin	Spermestes cucullata
Magpie Mannikin	Spermestes fringilloides





Common name	Scientific name
Cabanis's Bunting	Emberiza cabanisi
Golden-breasted Bunting	Emberiza flaviventris
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	Emberiza tahapisi

Total seen	348
Total heard only	15
Total recorded	363

<u>Mammal List – Following Mammalwatching.com (November 2024)</u>

The following notation after species names is used to show conservation status following IUCN Red List: EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable.

Common name	Scientific name
Elephants (Elephantidae)	·
African Savanna Elephant - EN	Loxodonta africana
Hyraxes (Procaviidae)	
Bush Hyrax	Heterohyrax brucei
Old World Monkeys (Cercopithecid	lae)
Blue Monkey	Cercopithecus mitis
Vervet Monkey	Chlorocebus pygerythrus
Chacma Baboon	Papio ursinus
Galagos (Galagidae)	_
Southern Lesser Galago	Galago moholi
Squirrels (Sciuridae)	
Mutable Sun Squirrel	Heliosciurus mutabilis
Smith's Bush Squirrel	Paraxerus cepapi
Old World Fruit Bats (Pteropodidae	e)
Peters's Epauletted Fruit Bat	Epomophorus crypturus
Canids (Canidae)	
Side-striped Jackal	Lupulella adustus
African Wild Dog - EN	Lycaon pictus
Felids (Felidae)	
Lion - VU	Panthera leo



Common name	Scientific name
Mongooses (Herpestidae)	
Common Slender Mongoose	Herpestes sanguineus
Common Dwarf Mongoose	Helogale parvula
Civets, Genets, and Oyans (Vive	 rridae)
Rusty-spotted Genet	Genetta fieldiana
Equines (Equidae)	
Plains Zebra	Equus quagga
Bovids (Bovidae)	
Impala	Aepyceros melampus
Blue Wildebeest	Connochaetes taurinus
Sharpe's Grysbok	Raphicerus sharpei
Blue Duiker	Philantomba monticola
Sable Antelope	Hippotragus niger
Klipspringer	Oreotragus oreotragus
Waterbuck	Kobus ellipsiprymnus
Cape Buffalo	Syncerus caffer
Common Eland	Tragelaphus oryx
Greater Kudu	Tragelaphus strepsiceros
Southern Bushbuck	Tragelaphus sylvaticus
Giraffes and Okapi (Giraffidae)	
Southern Giraffe	Giraffa giraffa
Suids (Suidae)	
Common Warthog	Phacochoerus africanus
Hippopotamuses (Hippopotamid	lae)
Common Hippopotamus - VU	Hippopotamus amphibius

Total seen	30
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Reptile List Reptiles of World (October 2023)

The following notation after species names is used to show conservation status following IUCN Red List: VU = Vulnerable.

Common name	Scientific name
Colubrid Snakes (Colubridae)	
Western Green Snake	Philothamnus angolensis
Elapid Snakes (Elapidae)	
Black Mamba	Dendroaspis polylepis
Dragons (Agamidae)	
Kirk's Rock Agama	Agama kirkii
Southern Tree Agama	Acanthocercus atricollis
Chameleons (Chamaeleonidae)	
Flap-necked Chameleon	Chamaeleo dilepis
Marshall's Pygmy Chameleon - VU	Rhampholeon marshalli
Skinks (Scincidae)	
Rainbow Skink	Trachylepis margaritifera
Wahlberg's Striped Skink	Trachylepis wahlbergii
Monitor Lizards (Varanidae)	
Nile Monitor	Varanus niloticus

Total seen	9
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