

Leaders: Mike Russell and local guides

11/12th March

While Jonathan and Jean provided the advance guard by travelling out the previous day, the rest of us met up at Heathrow and what was for me the fastest ever check-in. An uneventful flight took us to Jo'burg and a smooth transfer to Livingstone where we passed through immigration and to the waiting Oriol and Linda from the Bushbuck River House. Before we managed to leave the environs of the Airport, a **European honey buzzard** was spotted in the tree above the Land Rover and a first encounter with **chacma baboons** which became a regular occurrence during the holiday. A brief, technically illegal stop, on the road to the house produced amongst other birds, **blacksmith plover** and **three-banded plover**.

Arriving at the Lodge and a very welcome tea and cake the rest of us met up with Jonathan and Jean and we were soon experiencing a good old equatorial downpour which unfortunately put paid to Jan and Pete's microlight flight over the Victoria Falls, but it was great to spend the rest of the day relaxing after the long flight and sheltering from the heavy rain. When the rain ceased we went out to explore the grounds and the blizzard of new birds that flew before us, some presenting interesting identification challenges. There were far too many to list them all in this report so I'll just pick a few and apologise if I've left some of your favourites out.

Perhaps the most striking were the three species of **hornbill** around of which the **trumpeter** was the most spectacular, the **southern red-billed** the most common and the **African grey.** A splendid **crested barbet** was busy at its nest in the tree in front of the house, while bright yellow **African orioles** flitted amongst the tree tops. **Burchell's starlings** seemed to be nesting close-by, the **white-fronted bee-eaters** were a regular sighting and a **hadada ibis** was splendidly silhouetted in a tree against the darkening sky. Two more familiar birds we saw on the walk outside the grounds were a **European hobby** and then a **turtle dove**, the only one we saw during the trip.

Our first **vervet monkeys** were seen and Jonathan and Jean had acquired a lodger outside their room in the form of a **striped leaf-nosed bat**. After a splendid dinner, where the chef Albert introduced the meal, a lovely custom that took place everywhere we stayed, some very tired travellers retired for hopefully a good night's sleep.



13th March

Well, I don't think anyone can complain about the lack of action today! A pre-breakfast walk around the grounds and some more identification challenges, and then we were off to Mosi oa Tunga National Park, one of Zambia's smallest parks that did have a very special resident. We were met by a posse of excellent guides some of whom were named after various parts of the body, and we were off to explore the park, but not before we saw our first **Nile crocodile** and all three white **egrets**, **little**, **great** and the obligingly named **intermediate**! Also by the river was a close-by **pied kingfisher** and a **wire-tailed swallow** appropriately sitting on an overhead wire.

A drive into the park and various birds seen on the way including **wood sandpipers** that seemed to be on every bit of wetland in Zambia and Botswana. A stop for coffee and a **striped kingfisher** sitting in a nearby tree while during a walk from here we started the raptor count with **African hawk eagle, African harrier hawk** and the common **yellow billed kite** were all seen. **Meyer's parrots** darted through the tree tops and **a long-tailed paradise whydah** was pretty spectacular. We worked out that a bird in the tree above the vehicles was a **Levaillant's cuckoo** which was a great bird to see.

The first of many lachrymose moments of the holiday here when we came across the first **giraffe**, a female that was nonchalantly feeding nearby with a **red-billed oxpecker** in attendance. Another truly memorable moment soon followed when we drove to another area of the park and after a short walk we looking at a female **white rhinoceros** and her calf, two of only a handful left in the wild. While we kept a respectful distance in our beige and khaki apparel (Jan excepted of course), a young woman in white top and pink shorts was busy taking photographs almost within touching distance.

A short rest back at the House and then we were whisked off to the other side of Livingstone for a brilliant trip on the River Zambezi where we shared a boat with a very friendly Belgian couple and the silent Swiss man. Just a brilliant couple of hours ensued, free drinks making the trip even more pleasurable. Herons were everywhere, with **green-back**, **squacco** and then the scarcer **black heron** being new ones, sadly the black heron did not oblige by doing its umbrella feeding pose. To Charles' delight we were soon up close and personal alongside the endearingly looking **hammerkop** and a couple of other gems here, the first being the snake bird, otherwise known as the **African darter**, sitting on a branch sticking out the water while a couple of **water thick-knees** stood passively on the bank. An impressive water monitor lizard added to the variety here as well. At one point we were sitting under a beautiful **woodland kingfisher**.





A wonderful al fresco lunch was provided by the guides on an island in the river in which silent Swiss man refused to participate and then it was back onto the boat and travelled further up the river and dropped off our fellow sailors before heading back but not before seeing our first **African fish eagle** and an **osprey** gliding overhead.

Sadly the river trip came to an end but then we were whisked off to Victoria Falls one of the highlights of the holiday. Various forms of rainwear now appeared while others went for the 'I don't care if I get wet' option, including me and boy did we get wet! I think Lesley got the award for most risqué look by appearing just to be wearing strategically placed bin bags. Recent rain meant that the Falls were in pretty spectacular flow and I get the feeling that they didn't disappoint, they certainly lived up to their reputation, a purely magical experience. We still managed to see some birds as well, the **purple crested turaco** being the most exotic, while the **red-winged starling** caught the eye. Looking down into a wooded gorge revealed a number of **rock martins** flying around.

We managed to leave the Falls Park without being mugged by the baboons and before arriving back, a striking **red-breasted swallow** was seen as was a **lesser kestrel**. Over dinner we could all reflect on the whole range of experiences that were whirring around our heads.

14th March

Moving on today, but not before Jan and Pete got their pre-breakfast flight over the Falls on a microlight, and I think the experience lived up to their expectations. Meanwhile us land-based fellows made do with another brilliant walk around the grounds and again tested our identification skills. An **African goshawk** gave us particular problems and we did manage to sort out **black-chested prinea** from the **tawny-flanked prinea** while the **white-browed coucal** was pretty impressive as were the **African green pigeons**. Speaking of pigeons and doves, we were starting to distinguish their various calls and it's safe to say by the end of the holiday we were pretty familiar with the **red-eyed dove** and the rather lovely **emerald spotted wood-dove.**

Mid-morning we waved goodbye to Oriol and Linda and a colleague took us the 80 kilometres to Kasane for the crossing into Botswana which had the potential to be chaotic but went incredibly smoothly: we were met at the river where we had our own little ferry and the crossing led us to the point where 4 countries (Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana and Namibia) meet. At the other side we were again met by a lovely woman who got us onto the bus, introduced us to our jolly driver who got us through Immigration with the minimum of fuss and then we were on our way to the airport, not to catch a plane but to meet our divers from the Muchenje Lodge. An incredibly bright **red-crowned bishop** was pretty noticeable in the river side vegetation.

In keeping with our guides being named after body parts, we were met by Lips and his colleague (sadly I can't remember his name at the moment) and they were brilliant guides during our time at the very upmarket Muchenje Lodge. After another splendid lunch we were off on a safari into the wonderful Chobe National Park, home to one of the densest populations of elephants to be found anywhere on the continent. However familiar you are with **African elephants** from television, the sight of a herd moving through the wetland is just so special and such a privilege. This was after we saw a **dung beetle** rolling a ball of, not surprisingly, dung, right at the other end of the African wildlife size scale. Mammals dominated the scene as we gazed over this amazing wetland area: along with the elephants, there was a family of **warthogs**, herds of **red lechwe**, **zebra** were dotted around the landscape, an impressive **greater kudu** and a magnificent **sable antelope** added to the scene.

As for birds, one of the first birds noted as we drove down through the forest was **spotted flycatcher! Swallow-tailed bee-eaters** and **white crested helmet-shrike** were particularly striking as were the **southern ground-hornbills**, but in a more grotesque sort of way, but even they were outclassed in the ugliness stakes by the huge **maribou storks**. **Red-footed falcons** sped across the plains and as we headed back for sundowners we got good views of a **tropical boubou** and a number of **red-faced mousebirds**.

No let-up in the excitement today as a night drive followed dinner and a few more mammals succumbed to the glare of the torches as they strafed the vegetation along the tracks. Both **spring hare** and **scrub hare** were picked up quickly as were **black-backed jackal** and a **bat-eared fox**. However, these sightings were eclipsed by picking up a **leopard** sitting under a bush, seemingly not too concerned by

being in the spotlight, and undoubtedly the sight of one of the iconic African animals was an emotional experience and I do believe a few tears were shed. Even this didn't quite round off a magnificent day as back at the Lodge, a very obliging **African barred owlet** was sitting very conveniently outside the lounge.

March 15th

A 5.00am start preceded another incredibly action-packed day, very tiring but absolutely brilliant again. A couple of **spotted hyenas** and a huge **cape buffalo** were the mammal highlights of the morning whereas the **tawny eagle** was pretty special but there was so many wonderful new birds. **Little bee-eaters** were common and in a purple patch we picked up an **African cuckoo**, **arrow-marked babbler**, **red-billed buffalo-weaver** and **magpie shrike** as they paraded in front of us. A couple of birds identified as a double-banded courser that have subsequently been upgraded to **three-banded coursers** thanks to super sleuth Charles who looked closely at his pictures and found that they were sporting an extra band.

Another excellent breakfast and then a drive back towards Kasane, only to stop after a few hundred metres to admire our first of **bateleur** of the trip and also enjoying close-by views of **southern-carmine bee-eaters** on the way and to pick up the boat for a wonderful trip on the Chobe River. Once on the boats the visual delights came on after the other, starting off with just enjoying the sight of a herd of elephants themselves enjoying bathing in the water and was just lovely watching the family interaction especially with the babies. **Hippopotamuses** and Nile crocodiles were also around but sadly no-one was able to glimpse a snake that the guide pointed out.

As for birds, undoubtedly the star bird of the morning was the tiny and ridiculously colourful **malachite kingfisher** that allowed to get us very close in as it sat on the branch. There were quite a few on the bank as we went along. This wasn't the only kingfisher as we saw **grey-headed kingfisher** as well. A number of herons, waders and wildfowl, flew, swam and paraded in front of the boat and kept us entertained throughout the morning, **long-toed lapwing, whiskered tern** and **woolly-necked stork** all being new for the trip. Another one of the lovely lunches that the guides muster up in these remote places was enjoyed and was adorned by a **Jameson's firefinch**, **green-winged pytilia** and a familiar **whitethroat** before we headed slowly back, but requiring a shelter stop from a downpour which I believe was actually in Namibia! Here we caught up with a **coppery-tailed coucal**. Floating by some reeds and banks there were a number of pied kingfisher nests alongside the red-crowned bishops.

A long drive back through the park was particularly hard on the backside and also unfortunately precipitated an escape from the back of the vehicle by Trevor's binoculars. Here we had our one and only encounter with **lions** as two females and a male sat lethargically and were quite unconcerned by the presence of a few vehicles within leaping distance. However these three didn't look in the mood for leaping though eventually they sauntered off between the vehicles, a spine-tingling moment. Perhaps not so dramatic but it was great to get good views of a **banded mongoose**. New birds that made their way onto the list including the very striking and vocal **white-browed robin-chat** a **Jacobin cuckoo**, a **lesser grey shrike** and some lucky people caught sight of a **little sparrowhawk** by which time, the thought of exiting the vehicles was tantalising, but at least the first vehicle as they made their way back down the road to the Lodge put up a **Mozambique nightjar**. The African barred owlet put in an appearance again and was joined briefly by the resident **barn owl**, to bring to an end another just brilliant day.

March 16th

Changeover day today but still managed a pre-breakfast drive where we had even better views of jackals and hyenas: undoubtedly the bird highlight was a **secretary bird** which was a bit unexpected and particular pleased Sarah who's whole holiday would have been ruined if we hadn't seen one! Back at the Lodge a **purple roller** sat nearby while a **maricho flycatcher** actually visited us inside the Lodge, perhaps to see us safely off the premises. Back to Kasane Airport and sadly said goodbye to Lips and his colleague who passed us onto a very nice chap who saw us safely through procedures and onto a plane,

the size of which gave some in the party a bit of a shock, but was nothing compared to the miniscule planes we would fly in later on!

Sango Lodge is run by the Khwai Community Concession and the traditional welcome we received from the staff was just beautiful and set the tone for a wonderful three night stay. Although not quite in the National Park, you definitely started to feel that you were getting an Okavango Delta experience. A much more rustic camp than Muchenje, Sango Camp was just lovely as were the staff and the lodges position where we were just metres from submerged hippos was fabulous.

An afternoon drive took us to a wetland area that was just full of herons, wildfowl and waders. Top of the list was probably the **goliath heron**, seeming to be about twice the size of our own **grey heron** which was also around as was the not so common **slaty egret**. Also very impressive was the **saddle-billed stork** and more distantly two **wattled cranes** were seen, these are on the world endangered species list. A few distant white birds revealed themselves to be **African spoonbills**. Just sitting the vehicles, waders would come very close to us, most of which we had seen before but this time very close views. Water thick-knees, wood sandpipers, **common sandpipers** and **ruff** and it was really good to get such good views of the **collared pratincoles**. As for wildfowl, all of the ones we had seen so far were present, **spur-winged goose**, **white-faced whistling duck** and **red-billed teal**. Sated by all these wetland birds, we made our way back to camp and another lovely meal followed by a good night sleep lullabied by the calls of distant hyenas and farting hippos.

March 17th

An early dawn breakfast and then we were out back into Khwai Reserve and a pretty special morning. A new raptor in a distant tree was identified as a **brown snake eagle** while a **southern yellow-billed hornbill** entering a nest site in a tree was a good sighting. Before we got to the main highlight of the morning, Dennis our guide decided to see whether the jeep could double as a submersible vehicle... well it couldn't and so it got well and truly stuck. Dennis gallantly ferried Sarah and Lesley by piggy-back to higher ground whereas as Pete and Trevor were having none of it and manfully took their boots and socks off and waded to safety. Meanwhile the guides worked on a strategy to solve the problem which was eventually solved by two other vehicles and a hell of a lot of accelerator.

Having escaped from the swamp, the vehicles suddenly sped off and we knew we might be on our way to something special, and boy was it special. The guides arrived at a spot where there were two other vehicles and there underneath a bush, completely unconcerned were two leopards, a mother and full grown male cub with a half-eaten and pretty smelly impala carcass. We spent nearly an hour in their company, spellbound by being in the presence of these magnificent animals and observing their behaviour, but eventually we had to head off back to camp for lunch revelling in the scene we had just experienced.



Another brilliant lunch, a much needed siesta, some enjoying a dip in the over-sized bath and then it was back out onto the reserve in the late afternoon and we went to see if the leopards were still there, stopping to admire a pair of **southern white-crowned shrike** on the way, and indeed they were. On the way back at one point the first vehicle passed right by another leopard whereas those of us in the second vehicle stopped right by it. It then sloped off and disappeared into the bush, another memorable moment. Meanwhile, another mammal that made it onto the species list was a **slender mongoose.** In the gathering gloom, we also picked out a pair of **double-banded sandgrouse** and then a **fiery-necked nightjar** and managed to narrow down a song we had been hearing much of the time to be a **rattling cisticola**.

This night the sounds were provided by a herd of distant elephants accompanied by a magnificent electric storm light show.

March 18th

Just when you think days couldn't get any better, one does. Heading off to Moremi National Park at 7.00am we entered the park over a pretty rickety bridge and those in the first vehicle got a glimpse of a couple of **black crakes**. Within a few metres of entering, we were searching a bush for a **grey-headed cameroptera** when a glance to the left revealed two huge birds sitting in a nearby dead tree. They flew back to another tree but still gave us good views, from where we called admire a pair of **Verreaux's eagle owls**, the biggest owl on the continent. We weren't able to see the pink eyelids from this distance, but this is just a magnificent bird to see and a real privilege to get such good views.

A hardly decipherable communication between the drivers saw us speeding off into the bush and within minutes another memorable spectacle awaited us and over an hour was spent viewing a dramatic scene, worthy of any wildlife programme but without the music and David Attenborough's commentary. At a distance, we saw two **cheetahs** with a freshly caught **impala** and they were evidently enjoying the meal. A lone spotted hyena had got scent of this and was circling from a distance, but would not get close to the cats. After about 40 minutes, the cheetahs wandered off with visibly full stomachs which gave the hyena a chance to move in. Meanwhile a superb male bateleur landed in the tree beside one of the vehicles followed by three tawny eagles that soon saw the bateleur off when he tried to gain some scraps. However, from nowhere a giant bird glided in from nowhere, the first of 20 **white-backed vultures** that ganged up on the hyena and was in danger of being overwhelmed but gradually and rather gruesomely dragged the remaining impala head into a bush out of the way of the birds.

We eventually left the scene but on the way back we stopped at the scene of the crime, but nothing remained, no evidence of what we had previously witnessed. On leaving the park to head back for lunch a **lesser spotted eagle** sailed over the vehicles and a **great spotted cuckoo** perched conveniently on a nearby post and three diminutive **namaqua doves** flew by. What an absolute brilliant morning.

Another lunch and siesta was followed by yet another wonderful adventure as we headed out to the river for the mokoro punts. Yet more great guides as we went off in pairs, except me that is, and gliding past the reeds with a great Botswanan sky above, no noise other than the swish of water and birds, couldn't be beaten. A pair of **African pygmy geese** flew over and it seemed strange to hear a **sedge warbler** singing its heart out from the reeds. Various herons flew up, fish eagles sat out on prominent branches, **African jacanas** scuttled over lily pads and the sharp-eyed guides managed to pick out the tiny **Angolan reed frog** from the redbuds. Another glorious couple of hours in Botswana.

A superb sunset preceded the evening meal where the staff gave us a wonderful concert in which we were invited to join in which some of us did with gusto and some surprisingly good moves on the dance floor. Another tremendous electric storm during the night brought to an end a wonderful stay at Sango camp.

March 19th

Before leaving camp two new species flew by, a **purple heron** followed by a smaller **rufous-bellied heron**. Dennis and Obi our two brilliant driver/guides took us to the airfields and two planes arrived to take us away, one rather resembling a lawnmower with wings, but somehow they got us 9 people and luggage to our final stay of the holiday, Delta Camp. If you could get over the fact that you were in a flying tin can, the 25 minute flight to Delta Camp over the Okavango Delta was just magical: giraffe, zebra, elephant, hippos could all be clearly picked out. On landing, our pilot seemed determined to find the nearest water-filled pot-hole on the airstrip, but we landed safely and were met by more smiling guides and staff, with one intriguingly called One!

With strict instructions what to do should any wild animals be encountered, we walked to the camp and arrived in safety, noting a couple of **lilac-breasted rollers** on the way, birds we had seen many times before but forgot to mention, to yet another magical setting and just exquisite open sided lodges. Having inspected all the lodges it was decided that Jan and Pete were suited to the tree house, after being assured that neither of them were prone to sleepwalking!

Having settled in to the camp, we assembled for lunch and some new species paraded before us: **Hartlaub's golden weavers** were very yellow, while **chirping cisticolas** jumped up from the reeds and back again. In the afternoon we went on a walking safari out into the savannah where few mammals were actually encountered but at one point there was a tree full of birds, some of them new for the holiday. Between us we managed to sort a **chin-spot batis, brubru, African yellow white-eye** and **Hartlaub's babbler** amongst others already recorded.

Back to the lodge and a brilliant meal, all the food had been good during the trip but it was generally agreed that the food at Delta Camp surpassed them all. Eventually we headed back to our disparate lodges accompanied by the guides to keep us safe from rampaging hippos and elephants and with our beds open to the Delta, we fell asleep to a marvellous African soundscape.....except for the bloody **red-eyed doves** that kept going all night!

March 20th

Our final day and more wonderful Okavango experiences. Unfortunately the water levels were very low for the time of the year, but the guides did say that the waters were on the way, but this meant that we couldn't spend much time in the mokoro's so had to make do with a short punt across the river, trying to avoid bumping into any hippos or crocodiles. Walking through the reeds and savannah was an amazing experience and were able to see some distant elephants, while two new mammal species were encountered, a single each of a **blue wildebeest** amongst a herd of zebra and a distant **tsessebe**.

At a drink stop we noticed another couple of secretary birds in the distant and were entertained by a display of flying falcons which we in the end concluded were red-footed. By mid-morning heat and humidity was beginning to take its toll so we headed back to the Camp and more brilliant food, followed by a long and welcome siesta in which a friendly herd of elephants decided to visit the camp, particularly taking a fancy to Sarah and Lesley's lodge before strolling through the camp as if they owned it, which of course they do.

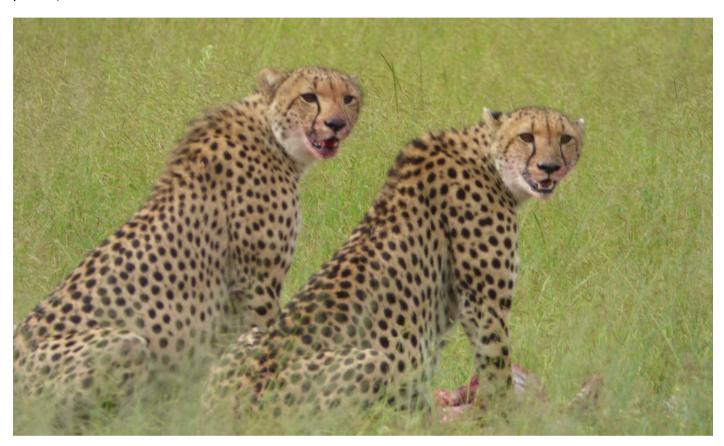
A short walk in the late afternoon to try and find Pel's fishing owl was sadly not fruitful but at least we added **willow warbler** to the list! Back at camp it seemed that the **black collared barbets** had been entertaining us all in our lodges, mine taking a particular fancy to his own reflection in the bathroom mirror.

Our last night in the Delta was marked with another beautiful sunset, a fabulous meal and reflections of an amazing ten days in Zambia and Botswana.

March 21st

The departure in the morning was done in stages and eventually we all gathered at Maun airport as the planes started to get bigger again. A very tedious changeover at Jo'berg Airport was slightly alleviated for some who spotted Eddie Izzard between marathons!

From my perspective, the organisation of the trip worked like clockwork and a big thanks to Birding Africa for that. The Lodges were wonderful as were all their staff, the food excellent, we met some wonderful guides and all the Botswanan (and Zambian) people we met along the way were just lovely. But above all, the wildlife was magical, so many dramatic encounters, wonderful landscapes and hopefully many lasting memories for you all. Big thanks to Charles our travelling entomologist for the butterfly list and the photos, for which also thanks to Trevor.



ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	11 th	12th	13 th	14 th	15th	16 th	17 th	18th	19 th	20 th	21st
MAMMALS												
Order Primates (Apes & M												
Vervet Monkey	Cercopithecus pygerythrus		•	•	•	•	•	•	•			
Chacma Baboon	Papio ursinus		•	•	•	•	•		•	•		
Order Chiroptera (Bats)												
Striped leaf-nosed bat	Hipposideros vittatus		•	•								
Order Rodentia (Rodents)												
Smith's Bush Squirrel	Paraxerus cepapi			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Spring Hare	Pedetes capensis				•	•						
Order Lagamorpha (Rabbi												
Scrub hare	Lepus saxatilis				•			•				
Order Carnivora (Carnivor												
Black-backed Jackal	Canis mesomelas				•		•	<u> </u>				
Bat-eared Fox	Otocyon megalotis				•			<u> </u>				
Banded Mongoose	Mungos mungo					•						
Slender Mongoose	Herpestes saguinea							•				
Spotted Hyaena	Crocuta crocuta						•		•		Н	Н
Lion	Panthera leo						•				Н	
Leopard	Panthera pardus					•	•	•				
Cheetah	Acinonyx jubatus								•			
Order Elephanta (Elephan												
African Elephant	Loxodonta africana				•	•	•			•	•	•
Order Perissodactyla (Odd												
Common Zebra	Equus quagga antiquorum			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
White Rhinoceros	Ceratotherium simum			•								
Order Artiodactyla (Even-												
Hippopotamus	Hippopotamus amphibious			•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Common Warthog	Phacochoerus africanus				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Giraffe	Giraffa camelopardalis			•	•	•	•	•		•		
African Buffalo	Syncerus caffer					•	•	<u> </u>		•		
Greater Kudu	Tragelaphus strepsiceros				•	•	•	•		•	•	
Waterbuck	Kobus ellipsiprymnus		•	•	•	•	•	•				
Red Lechwe	Kobus leche				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Tsessebe	Damaliscus lunatus										•	
Impala	Aepyceros melampus		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Sable Antelope	Hippotragus niger				•	•						
Blue Wildebeest	Connochaetes taurinus										•	
REPTILES AND AMPHIBIA												
Nile Crocodile	Crocodilus niloticus			•			•					
Water monitor	Varanus niloticus			•		•						
Wahlberg's Striped Skink	Trachylepis wahlbergii			•	•					•	•	•

ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th	21st	22nd
BIRDS Family Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants)												
Reed Cormorant	Phalacrocorax africanus		•	•	•	•	•		•	•		•	
Family Anhingidae (Darters			Ū	·		•			Ĭ	·			
African Darter	Anhinga rufa			•		•	•		•	•	•	•	
Family Threskiornithidae (I						ļ							
Sacred Ibis	Threskiornis aethiopicus			•	•	•		•		•			
Hadeda Ibis	Bostrychia hagedash		•		•		•	•	•				
African Spoonbill	Platalea alba						•						
Family Ardeidae (Herons)													
Goliath Heron	Ardea goliath						•						
Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea			•	•		•	•	•	•			
Purple Heron	Ardea purpurea									•			
Great White Egret	Ardea alba			•	•	•	•	•	•			•	
Intermediate Egret	Egretta intermedia			•	•	•							
Little Egret	Egretta garzetta		•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•		
Slaty Egret	Egretta vinaceigula						•		•				
Black Heron	Egretta ardesiaca			•		•							
Western Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis			•	•	•	•	•		•	•		
Squacco Heron	Ardeola ralloides			•	•		•	•	•				
Rufous-bellied Heron	Ardeola rufiventris								•	•	•		
Green-backed Heron	Butorides striata			•	•	•		•	•				
Family Ciconiidae (Storks)													
Woolly-necked Stork	Ciconia espicopus					•			•				
Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumeniferus				•	•	•	•			•		
African Openbill	Anastomus lamelligerus			•	•		•	•	•	•	•		
Saddle-billed Stork	Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis						•			•		•	
Family Scopidae (Hamerko													
Hamerkop	Scopus umbretta			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Family Anatidae (Ducks, Ge	ese and Swans)												
White-faced Whistling Duck	Dendrocygna viduata			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Egyptian Goose	Alopochen aegyptiaca		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			
Knob-billed Duck	Sarkidiornis melanotos		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			
Spur-winged Goose	Plectopterus gambensis				•	•	•	•	•	•		•	
Red-billed Teal	Anas eryththrohyncha				•	•	•	•					
African Pygmy Goose	Nettapus auritus								•				
Family Accipitridae (Hawks	, Eagles and Vultures)												
White-backed Vulture	Gyps africanus		•	•	•	•	•	•	•				
Hooded Vulture	Necrosyrtes monachus			•	•								
Bateleur	Terathopius ecaudatus					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
African Fish Eagle	Haliaeetus vocifer			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
African Hawk Eagle	Aquila spilogaster			•	•		•				•		
Tawny Eagle	Aquila rapax					•	•		•				
Lesser Spotted Eagle	Clanga pomarina								•				
Brown Snake Eagle	Cicaetus cinereus							•	•				
European Honey Buzzard	Pernis apivorus		•										
African Goshawk	Acciipiter tachiro					•			•				
Little Sparrowhawk	Accipiter minnilus					•							
Yellow-billed Kite	Milvus aegyptius			•	•	•		•					
African Harrier-Hawk	Polyboroides typus			•				•			•		
Osprey	Pandion haliaetus		l	1	•	ĺ	l	I	1	1	I	Ì	

ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16^{th}	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th	
Family Sagitariidae (Secreta												ļ
Secretarybird	Sagittarius serpentarius						•				•	L
Family Falconidae (Falcons)												
Lesser Kestrel	Falco naumanni			•		•						Ļ
Rock Kestrel	Falco rupicolus				•						<u> </u>	Ļ
Red-footed Falcon	Falco vespertinus				•	•					•	Ļ
Hobby	Falco subbuteo		•									
Family Numidae (Guineafow												
Helmeted Guineafowl	Numida meleagris		•	•	•	•	•	•				
Family Phasianidae (Pheasa							1					F
Crested Francolin	Dendroperdix sephaena						•		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	Ļ
Red-billed Spurfowl	Pternistis adspersus				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Ļ
Swainson's Spurfowl	Pternistis swainsonii		•	•	•							
Family Rallidae (Rails and C							1					F
Black Crake	Amaurornis flavirostra							•	•	•		
Family Gruidae (Cranes)												ļ
Wattled Crane	Bugeranus carunculatus						•		•	•		
Family Jacanidae (Jacanas)												
African Jacana	Actophilornis africanus				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Family Recurvirostridae (Sti												
Black-winged Stilt	Himantopus himantopus					•						
Family Burhinidae (Thick-kr												
Water Thick-knee	Burhinus vermiculatus			•		•	•					
Family Charadriidae (Plover	<u> </u>											
Blacksmith Lapwing	Vanellus armatus		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
White-crowned Lapwing	Vanellus albiceps		•	•	•	•	•					
Crowned Lapwing	Vanellus coronatus									•	•	
Long-toed Lapwing	Vanellus crassirostris						•	•				
Three-banded Plover	Charadrius tricollaris		•	•			•	•	•			
Family Glareolidae (Courser												
Collared Pratincole	Glareola pratincola				•		•					
Three-banded Courser	Rhinoptilus cinctus					•						
Family Scolopacidae (Sandp	pipers)											
Greenshank	Tringa nebularia			•								
Ruff	Philomachus pugnax		•									
Wood Sandpiper	Tringa glareola			•	•		•	•	•		•	
Common Sandpiper	Tringa hypoleucos			•	•	•	•			•		
Family Laridae (Gulls)	_											
Grey-headed Gull	Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus		•		•	•						
Family Sternidae (Terns)												
Whiskered Tern	Chlidonius hybridus						•		•	•		
Family Columbidae (Pigeons	s and Doves)											
African Green Pigeon	Treron calvus		•	•	•		•			•		
Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	Columba livia		•									Ī
Cape Turtle (Ringed) Dove	Streptopelia capicola		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Ī
European Turtle Dove	Streptopelia turtur		•									Ī
Red-eyed Dove	Streptopelia semitorquota				•	•	•	•		•	•	ſ
Laughing Dove	Streptopelia senegalensis				•	•		Н	Н	•	•	ſ
Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	Turtur chalcospilos		•	•	•	•	•	Н	Н	Н	Н	Ī
Namaqua Dove	Oean capensis							•				Γ
Family Pteroclidae (Sandgro	,											ı
Double-banded Sandgrouse	Pterocles bicinctus							•			_	~

ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	11 th	12 th	13 th	14th	15th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19th	20 th	21st	22nd
Family Psittacidae (Parrots) Meyer's Parrot	Poicephalus meyeri		•	•					•	•	•		
Family Musophagidae (Turac			•	•				•	•	·	Ė		
Purple-crested Turaco	Tauraco porphyrelophus			•									
Grey Go-away-bird	Corythaixoides concolor		•	•			•	•		•			
Family Cuculidae (Cuckoos)	Col ythaixoldes collector								·	Ė			
Levaillant's Cuckoo	Clamator levallantii			•				•	•				
Jacobin Cuckoo	Clamator jacobinus			_				•	_				
Great Spotted cuckoo	Clamator glandarius								•				
African Cuckoo	Cuculus gularis					•							
Senegal Coucal	Centropus senegalensis					•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Coppery-tailed Coucal	Centropus cupreicaudus					•				•			
White-browed Coucal	Centropus supercilosus				•		•				•		
Family Strigidae (Owls)													
African Barred Owlet	Glaucidium capense				•								
African Scops Owl	Otus senegalensis										Н		
Verreaux's Eagle Owl	Bubu Lacteus								•				
Family Tytonidae (Barn Owls													
Barn Owl	Tytus alba					•							
Family Caprimulgidae (Night)	ars)												
Mozambique Nightjar	Caprimulgus fossii					•							
Fiery-necked Nightjar	Caprimulgus pectoralis							•					
Family Apodidae (Swifts)													
Common Swift	Apus apus									•	•		
African Palm Swift	Cypsiurus parvus			•						•	•	•	
Family Coliidae (Mousebirds)													
Red-faced Mousebird	Urocolius indicus				•	•	•						
Family Alcedinidae (River Kin													
Malachite Kingfisher	Alcedo cristata					•							
Family Cerylidae (Water King						1	1						
Pied Kingfisher	Ceryle rudis			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Family Halcyonidae (Tree Kin	T												
Brown-hooded Kingfisher	Halcyon albiventris			•									
Striped Kingfisher Grey-headed Kingfisher	Halcyon chelicuti Halcyon leucocephela			•			•		•	•			
Woodland Kingfisher	Halcyon senegalensis			•	•		-	•	•	•	•	•	
Family Meropidae (Bee-eater					·				•	Ė			
White-fronted Bee-eater	Merops bullockoides		•	•	•	•							
Little Bee-eater	Merops pusillus				<u> </u>	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	Merops hirundineus				•								
European Bee-eater	Merops apiaster				•	•	•	•		•	-		
Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	Merops persicus					•							
Sothern Carmine Bee-eater	Merops nubicoides					•	•	•		•			
Family Coraciidae (Rollers)													
Lilac-breasted Roller	Coracias caudatus				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Purple Roller	Coracias naevius						•						
Family Bucorvidae (Ground-h	ornbills)												
Southern Ground-hornbill	Bucorvus leadbeateri				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Family Bucerotidae (Hornbills													
Trumpeter Hornbill	Bycanistes bucinator		•		•								
Southern Red-billed Hornbill	Tockus erythrorhynchus		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill	Tockus leucomelas							•	•				
African Grey Hornbill	Tockus nasutus		•	•	•	•		•		•			

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Family Pheniculidae (Wood- Green Wood-hoopoe	d-hoopoes) Phoeniculus purpureus									•			
Common Sicklebill	Rhinopomastus cyanomelas		•	•	•					•			
Family Lybiidae (African E													
Black-collared Barbet	Lybius torquatus									•	•	•	
Crested Barbet	Trachyphonus vaillantii		•	•	•		•			•		•	
Family Picidae (Woodpecl	,,												
Bearded Woodpecker	Dendropicos namaguus			•			•			•	•		
Golden-tailed Woodpecker	Campethera abingoni		•										
Bennett's Woodpecker	Campethera bennettii						•						
Family Alaudidae (Larks)													
Dusky Lark	Pinarocorys nigrocans				•	•							
Family Hirundinidae (Swa	llows and Martins)												
Wire-tailed Swallow	Hirundo smithii			•	•	•							
Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica		•	•		•		•	•	•	•	•	
Red-breasted Swallow	Cecropis semirufa			•									
Brown-throated Martin	Riperia paludicola				•								
Rock Martin	Ptyonoprogne fuligula			•									
Family Dicruridae (Drongo													
Fork-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus adsimilis		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			
Family Oriolidae (Orioles)													
African Golden Oriole	Oriolus auratus		•	•					•				
Family Platysteiridae (Bat	T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T T												
Chinspot Batis	Batis molitor									•			
Family Malaconotidae (Bu													
Tropical Boubou	Laniarius aethiopicus				•	•		•					
Swamp Boubou	Laniarius bicolor									Н	•		
Brown-crowned Tchagra	Tchagra australis		•				•						
Black-crowned Tchagra	Tchagra senagalus				•			<u> </u>					
Black-backed Puffback	Dryoscopus cubla								•	•	•	\sqcup	_
Brubru	Nilaus afer									•			
Family Prionopidae (Helm							1	1	1				
White-crested Helmetshrike	Prionops plumatus				•	•							
Family Corvidae (Crows)	Comusa albus		_	_									
Pied Crow Family Paridae (Tits)	Corvus albus		•	•									
Southern Black Tit	Parus niger		•										
Family Pycnonotidae (Bul			•										
Dark-capped Bulbul	Pycnonotus tricolor									•	•	•	
Family Macrosphenidae (•									Ė	
Long-billed Crombec	Sylvietta rufescens					•					•		
Family Phylloscopidae (Le	,												
Willow Warbler						•					•		
	Phylloscopus trochilus										·		
	Phylloscopus trochilus												
	eed Warblers)					•							
Lesser Swamp Warbler	eed Warblers) Acrocephelus gracilirostris					•		•					
Lesser Swamp Warbler Sedge Warbler	eed Warblers) Acrocephelus gracilirostris Acrocephalus schoenobaenus					•		•					
Lesser Swamp Warbler Sedge Warbler Family Sylviidae (Sylvia W	Acrocephalus gracilirostris Acrocephalus schoenobaenus /arblers)							•					
Lesser Swamp Warbler Sedge Warbler Family Sylviidae (Sylvia W Common Whitethroat	Acrocephelus gracilirostris Acrocephalus schoenobaenus Varblers) Sylvia communis					•		•					
Lesser Swamp Warbler Sedge Warbler Family Sylviidae (Sylvia W Common Whitethroat Family Cisticolidae (Cistic	eed Warblers) Acrocephelus gracilirostris Acrocephalus schoenobaenus /arblers) Sylvia communis olas and Prinias)							•					
Lesser Swamp Warbler Sedge Warbler Family Sylviidae (Sylvia Warbler) Common Whitethroat Family Cisticolidae (Cisticolidae) Tawny-flanked Prinia	eed Warblers) Acrocephelus gracilirostris Acrocephalus schoenobaenus /arblers) Sylvia communis olas and Prinias) Prinia subflava				•			•					
Lesser Swamp Warbler Sedge Warbler Family Sylviidae (Sylvia W Common Whitethroat Family Cisticolidae (Cistic	eed Warblers) Acrocephelus gracilirostris Acrocephalus schoenobaenus /arblers) Sylvia communis olas and Prinias)				1	•		•					

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Luapula Cisticola	Cisticola luapula							•					
Chirping Cisticola	Cisticola pipiens									•	•	•	
Rattling Cisticola	Cisticola chiniana							•					
Family Buphagidae (Oxpecke													
Red-billed Oxpecker	Buphagus erythrorhynchus		•	•	•		•		Ш	•		•	<u> </u>
Yellow-billed Oxpecker	Buphagus africanus						•						
Family Muscicapidae (Flycato													
White-browed Robin-chat	Cossypha heuglini					•	•			•	•	•	
Marico Flycatcher	Malaenornis mariquensis						•						
Spotted Flycatcher	Musicapa striata			•					•	•			
Family Timaliidae (Babblers a				1									
African Yellow White-eye	Zosterops senegalensis								\square	•	\vdash		
Arrow-marked Babbler	Turdoides jardineii					•	•			•	•	•	
Hartlaub's Babbler	Turdoides hartlaubii									•	•	•	
Family Motacillidae (Wagtails													
African Pied Wagtail	Motacilla aguimp			•		•							
Cape Wagtail	Motacilla capensis					•							
African Pipit	Anthus cinnamomeus									•			
Family Monarchidae (Monarc													
African Paradise Flycatcher	Terpsiphone viridis						•	•	•	•	•	•	
Family Laniidae (Shrikes)													
Magpie Shrike	Corvinella melanoleuca					•		•	•	•			
Southern White-crowned Shrike	Eurocephalus anguitimens					•		•					
Red-backed Shrike	Lanius collutius				•	•		•	•	•	•	•	
Lesser Grey Shrike	Lanius minor					•							
Family Sturnidae (Starlings)													
Red-winged Starling	Onychognathus morio			•					Ш		\vdash		
Cape Glossy Starling	Lamprotornis nitens								•				
Greater Blue-eared Starling	Lamprotornis chalybaeus					•	•	•					
Burchell's Starling	Lamprotornis australis		•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•		
Meves's Starling	Lamprotornis mevesii				•				•	•	•	•	
Wattled Starling	Creatophora cinerea					•							
Violet-backed Starling	Cinnyricinclus leucogaster					•							
Common Mynah	Acridotheres tristis		•										
Family Nectarinidae (Sunbird				1									
Collared Sunbird	Hedydipna collaris				•					•			
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	Chalcomitra senegalensis		•		•								
Family Ploceidae (Weavers)													
Red-billed Buffalo-weaver	Bubalornis niger			•		•		•	\vdash				
Southern Red Bishop	Euplectes orix				•	•			\vdash				
White-winged Widowbird	Euplectus albonotatus			•					\square		\vdash		
Long-tailed Widowbird	Euplectus progne			•	•				Ш				
Village Weaver	Ploceus cucullatus			•					\square		\vdash		
Holub's Golden Weaver	Ploceus xanthops								\square	•	•	•	
Southern Brown-throat' Weaver	Ploceus xanthopterus						•						-
Red-billed Quelea	Quelea quelea			•							•		
Family Estrildidae (Waxbills)	4 " 6 ::												
Cut-throat Finch	Amadina fasciata							•	Ш		\vdash		
Blue Waxbill	Uraeginthus angolensis		•		•		•	•	•	•	•	•	
Common Waxbill	Estrilda astrild								\bigsqcup			•	
Red-billed Firefinch	Lagonosticta senegala							•	•				
Jameson's Firefinch	Lagonosticta rhodopareia					•			Ш				
Green-winged Pytilia	Pytilia melba					•							

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Family Passeridae (Sparrows)													
White-browed Sparrow-weaver	Plocepasser mahali		•	•	•	•	•						
Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	Passer diffusus				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Family Viduidae (Whydahs an	d Indigobirds)												
Long-tailed Paradise Whydah	Vidua paradisaea			•		•							
Village Indigobird	Vidua chalybeata				•	•	•						
Family Emberizidae (Buntings													
Golden-breasted Bunting	Emberiza flaviventris						•						

BUTTERFLIES: the following species were all recorded during our trip

Family Papiliondae

Mocker Swallowtail Citrus Swallowtail Larger Striped Swordtail Cream-striped Swordtail Common Graphium

Family Pieridae

Small Grass Yellow
Marsh Grass Yellow
Large Grass Yellow
African Migrant
Yellow Orange Tip
Small Orange Tip
Common Orange Tip
Bushveld Orange Tip
Orange & Lemon

(aka Autumn Leaf Vagrant) Plain Vagrant Diverse White

Common Dotted Border Streaked Dotted Border Pioneer White

African Veined White

Papilio dardanus Papilio demodocus Graphium antheus Graphium porthao Graphium leonidae

Eurema brigitta Eurema hapale Eurema hecabe Catopsilia florella Colotis auxo

Colotis evagore Colotis evenina Colotis pallene

Eronia leda Nepheronia buquetii Appias epaphia Mylothris agathina Mylothris rubricosta

Belenois aurota Belenois gidica

Family Nymphalidae

African Monarch
African Ringlet
Two-tailed Pasha
White-barred Emperor
Painted Lady

Yellow Pansy Brown Pansy Blue Pansy Eyed Pansy Clouded Mother-of-Pearl

Danaid Eggfly Common Joker The Guineafowl Lygus Acraea Common Leopard

Family Hesperiidae

Striped Policeman Dusty Elfin False Swift Danaus chrysippus
Ypthima aterope
Charaxes jasius
Charaxes brutus
Vanessa cardui
Junonia hierta
Junonia natalica
Junonia oenone
Junonia orithya
Protogoniomorpha anacardii
Hypolimnas misippus

Byblia anvatara Hamanumida daedalus

Hamanumida daedalı Acraea Ivaus

Phalanta phalantha

Coeliades forestan Sarangesa seineri Borbo fallax

Family Lycaenidae

Common Scarlet
Tailed Meadow Blue
Beautiful Zebra Blue
Common Smoky Blue
Msasa Blue

African Grass Blue

Axiocerses tjoane Cupidopsis jobates Leptotes pulchra Euchrysops malathana Lepidochrysops longifalces

Zizeeria knysna