

# WILDLIFE TRAVEL

## South Africa

12<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> August 2017



## **SOUTH AFRICA 2017**

### **LIST OF TRAVELLERS**

#### **Guides**

Dalton Gibbs and Seth Musker

#### **Leaders**

Philip Precey

A gallery of Philip's photos from the trip is at [flickr.com/photos/wildlifetravel/sets/72157685772431944](https://www.flickr.com/photos/wildlifetravel/sets/72157685772431944)

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### Day 1 13<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Arrival and Kirstenbosch Botanic Gardens

Having had varying degrees of success at sleeping on the overnight flight, the group arrived at Cape Town airport where we met up with Dalton and Seth, our guides for the next two weeks, and were whisked off to our guesthouse in the suburb of Pinelands, passing a drainage channel packed with Glossy Ibis, Hartlaub's Gulls, Black-winged Stilts and Greater Flamingos on the way.

No rest for the wicked; having checked in to our rooms and briefly made ourselves at home, we headed out again, to the foot of Table Mountain and the world-renowned Kirstenbosch Botanic Gardens, where we slowly came to recognise just how vast and potentially un-knowable the flora of the Cape region really is! Names we are no doubt to become familiar with over the coming days: a plethora of Restios and Ericas and Proteas, Leucadendrons and Leucospermums, Mimetes and Serrurias. In the glasshouse, we had our first taste of some of the succulent plants from the more arid regions to the north, with Crassulaceae, Aizoaceae and Euphorbiaceae all sure to feature in our near future.

We were introduced to South Africa's national tree, the Real Yellow-wood *Podocarpus latifolius*, South Africa's national flower, the King Protea *Protea cynaroides*, (apparently likened by Linnaeus somewhat uncharitably to a big pink artichoke) and a grove of cycads including the lonely lone male *Encephalartos woodii*, the last of his kind.

As we headed up the garden, we had some great views down over the city, as well as up to the slopes of Table Mountain. Here we could see virtually the entire world range of the Silvertree *Leucadendron argenteum* (also South Africa's largest member of the Proteaceae) and the Table Mountain Ghost Frog, both restricted to these moister cooler slopes. In one of the ponds we could hear the cricket-like chirruping of the Peninsula Moss Frog, another amphibian with a tiny world range.

Birds in the gardens included Hadada Ibis and noisy/endearing families of Egyptian Geese, Helmeted Guineafowl and Cape Spurfowl. Back at the gift shop, we were met by a pair of Spotted Eagles Owls quietly sitting in the corner of the courtyard watching the world go by, while we stocked up on post cards and stamps and browsed the book shop.

### Day 2 14<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Cape Peninsula and Cape Flats

Today we headed south, to explore the Cape Peninsula, travelling down through the southern suburbs of Cape Town to the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, now part of the wider Table Mountain National Park. The roadsides were aglow with the yellow bushes of *Leucadendron laurum*, and before entering the reserve, we found a pair of Bontebok grazing on the fynbos-covered slopes. This beautiful antelope, chocolate brown and white with a gingery neck, is restricted to the coastal fynbos of the southwestern Cape. It was once hunted both for meat and as a pest, as competition with domestic livestock for grazing, and by 1931, just 17 animals survived on a single Cape farm. From this tiny remnant population, the Bontebok has recovered and the total population is now around 2500 animals.

Into the reserve proper, and we stopped first at Buffelsfontein Visitor Centre, where as well as some much-appreciated facilities we had good views of a pair of Southern Boubou, a male Malachite Sunbird perched at the top of a tall tree, and a small herd of Eland were found browsing on the dune ridge opposite.

Onwards, to Cape Point itself where we walked up through the 'strandveld' vegetation to the lighthouse and its views of Cape Point, Cape of Good Hope, and out across False Bay. Here, large numbers of Cape Cormorants were coming and going to their nests on the cliffs, with good numbers of Cape Gannet and Swift Terns joining them out at sea. A small fishing boat was being followed by Kelp Gulls, which in turn were followed by a single Subantarctic Skua, while a young Giant Petrel came gliding by on long stiff wings. Just beyond the surf, two small groups of Cape Fur Seals were idling at the surface, waving their long front flippers out of the water to thermo-regulate. Black Girdled Lizard was sunbathing on the rocks below the lighthouse, while Familiar Chat, Grey-backed Cisticola and Cape Bunting flitted about on the slope.

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Lunch was in the sunshine at Oliphants Bay, where Sacred Ibis, Kelp Gulls and Red-winged Starlings fed on the flies around the washed-up kelp, an African Black Oystercatcher picked amongst the rocks and a pair of Cape Bulbuls and a singing male Yellow Bishop posed behind us. Liz and Roz were visited by a Cape Striped Field Mouse over lunch.

Back to the vehicles, and we found a large troop of Chacma Baboons strolling past. An Angulate Tortoise and a small Knox's Desert Lizard were amongst the rocks, along with the impressive Medusa's-head Spurge *Euphorbia caput-medusae* and the tiny yellow stars of *Spiloxene cf canaliculata*.

Along the road we stopped briefly to investigate an area that was burned a few years ago, and we found the lovely orange *Gladiolus bonaespei* and the 'Granny's Bonnet' orchid *Disperis capensis*, two species which flourish after fires. A Jackal Buzzard posed in a burned tree nearby, and two wonderful Cape Mountain Zebras appeared at the roadside, another rare animal with a total world population of fewer than 5000 individuals.

### Cape Peninsula: Cape Point and Oliphants Bay

<i>Spiloxene cf canaliculata</i>	Hypoxidaceae	The little yellow star lily, Oliphants
<i>Gladiolus bonaespei</i>	Iridaceae	The orange-red tubular Gladiolus, in the recently burned area, nr Oliphants
<i>Disperis capensis</i>	Orchidaceae	The 'Mother's Bonnet' orchid, on the roadside in the recently burned area
<i>Culluma squarrosa</i>	Asteraceae	Yellow-flowered, sprawling with curled-back, 'squarrose' leaves
<i>Metalasia muricata</i>	Asteraceae	Cape Point: dense white flowerheads
<i>Senecio elegans</i>	Asteraceae	The pinky-purple Senecio behind the beach at Oliphants Bay
<i>Syncarpa vestita</i>	Asteraceae	The 'everlasting' at the burned area
<i>Tarchonanthus camphoratus</i>	Asteraceae	<b>Camphor Bush</b> , fluffy white flowerheads, Cape Point
<i>Lobostemon montanus</i>	Boraginaceae	Pale blue-flowered 'bugloss' bush along the roadside near Misty Cliffs
<i>Brunia noduliflora</i>	Bruniaceae	A small shrub with drumstick-like flower heads, in the recently burned area
<i>Lobelia cf pinifolia</i>	Campanulaceae (was Lobeliaceae)	In the burned area, near Oliphants
<i>Pterocelastrus tricuspidatus</i>	Celastraceae	<b>Candlewood</b> shrub at Cape Point
<i>Tylecodon paniculatus</i>	Crassulaceae	Succulent shrub on the cliffs below Cape Point
<i>Erica tristis</i>	Ericaceae	The largest Erica in South Africa, at Cape Point
<i>Erica plukenetii</i>	Ericaceae	Red flowers with anthers sticking far out beyond the flower tube
<i>Euphorbia caput-medusae</i>	Euphorbiaceae	<b>Medusa's Head Spurge</b> behind the beach at Oliphants
<i>Diastella divaricata</i>	Proteaceae	<b>Peninsula Silky-puff</b> , the low growing, small pink-flowered protea-relative, in the recently burned area
<i>Leucadendron laurum</i>	Proteaceae	<b>Golden Conebush</b> , the dominant yellow shrub along the roadsides in parts of the peninsula
<i>Mimetes hirtus</i>	Proteaceae	<b>Marsh Pagoda</b> , growing by the roadside near Oliphants
<i>Protea repens</i>	Proteaceae	<b>Sugar Bush</b> , growing by the roadside near Oliphants
<i>Serruria villosa</i>	Proteaceae	The feathery-leaved plant sprouting across the burned area
<i>Polygala myrtifolia</i>	Polygalaceae	The shrubby milkwort at Cape Point
<i>Colpoos (=Osiris) compressum</i>	Santalaceae	<b>Cape Sumach</b> , the hemi-parasitic shrub with reddish berries, at Cape Point
<i>Chaenostoma hispidum</i>	Scrophulariaceae	White, almost campion-like, Cape Point
<i>Nemesia versicolor</i>	Scrophulariaceae	Annual plant, with blue or white flowers, behind the beach at Oliphants
<i>Solanum africanum</i>	Solanaceae	Purple-flowered Solanum, Cape Point
<i>Viscum capense</i>	Viscaceae	<b>Cape Mistletoe</b> , at Cape Point



## Cape Town and the Cape Peninsula



Top, l to r: Cape Sugarbird in Kirstenbosch Botanic Gardens; *Serruria foeniculacea*, the Rondevlei Spiderhead  
Bottomleft: Spotted Eagle Owl. Bottom right: *Brunia nodiflora* (left), Kirstenbosch Botanic Gardens (right) and the endangered Western Leopard Toad *Amietophrynus pantherinus* (bottom)

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From here, we headed north again, this time travelling up the east side of the peninsula and into the sprawl of Cape Town, where we arrived at the Rondevlei Nature Reserve, one of the four Cape Town reserves managed by Dalton. Here we were introduced to the latest members of the reserve's management team, a herd of five Eland, including the particularly friendly Uniqua and Mr Gibbs. Their job here is to open up the encroaching scrub and help to restore this area of lowland fynbos.

Nearby we met two more of the reserves stars, two plant species for which this one field holds the entire world population, *Serruria foeniculacea* which was once down to just two seedlings, and *Erica verticillata* which was lost completely in the wild until four surviving individuals were found in botanic gardens around the world, including two plants in Vienna, and brought back in the form of cuttings to be re-introduced here. As well as a number of young cuttings which have been planted out across the site, the first 'wild' seedling was also in flower. Beneath one of these incredibly rare bushes we found an equally endangered amphibian, a very handsome Western Leopard Toad.

To end the day, we had a whistlestop tour of the nearby Strandfontein reserve, where the former sewage treatment pools were full of wildfowl, including Cape Teal, Cape Shoveler, Southern Pochard, Yellow-billed Duck and Red-billed Teal, along with Red-knobbed Coot, Moorhen and Little Grebe. A pair of Cape Longclaws glowed orange, two Water Thick-knees posed under a bush, a Black-shouldered Kite posed briefly, two African Marsh Harriers quartered the banks nearby and both Marsh and Cape Grey Mongooses ran across the tracks in front of us.

A shallower pool was home to 22 White Storks, apparently having wintered here instead of flying north to Europe for the summer, along with Great White Pelican and waders in the form of Avocet, Black-winged Stilt, two Greenshank and three Whimbrel.

### Rondevlei Nature Reserve and Strandfontein

<i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i>	Araceae	The white arum lily
<i>Lachenalia bulbifera</i>	Asparagaceae	Orange, long tubular flowers
<i>Erica verticillata</i>	Ericaceae	<b>Whorled Heath</b> , classified as extinct in the wild, re-introduced into the field here from plants in Vienna, Pretoria and Kirstenbosch, and now reproducing again.
<i>Oxalis versicolor</i>	Oxalidaceae	The white oxalis with pink 'candy stripes' on the underside of the petals
<i>Leucadendron levisanus</i>	Proteaceae	A critically endangered Leucadendron, in the Eland field
<i>Serruria foeniculacea</i>	Proteaceae	The <b>Rondevlei Spiderhead</b> , critically endangered and now only found in that one field

### Day 3 15<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Travelling up the west coast

We left Cape Town in heavy drizzly rain, and kept the rain with us for pretty much the whole day. As we drove north up the coast, we passed Blaauwberg Hill, where in 1806 a British expeditionary force of 30,000 men defeated the combined French, Dutch, Malay and Khoi forces of the Cape colony and took the Cape for Britain, so opening the door to the British empire in east Africa, India and beyond. So there you go...

Our first stop was the road down to Ganzekraal, where the verges supported interesting Strandveld vegetation, notably two species of Babiana and the mauve *Gladiolus carinatus*, along with a lovely male Southern Black Korhaan.

### Ganzekraal roadside: Strandveld

<i>Brunsvigia orientalis</i>	Amaryllidaceae	Succulent broad leaves: histeranthus
<i>Babiana ambigua</i>	Iridaceae	Mauve flowered
<i>Babiana ringens</i>	Iridaceae	<b>Rat's-tail</b> Bright red upside-down flowers with 'rats-tail' sunbird perch
<i>Gladiolus carinatus</i>	Iridaceae	The mauve gladiolus
<i>Satyrium odoratum</i>	Orchidaceae	Rosettes of leaves

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<i>Microlooma sagittatum</i>	Apocynaceae (was Asclepiadaceae)	The narrow-leaved fine with red tubular flowers, pollinated by sunbirds to whose tongues the plant attaches pollen sacs.
<i>Salvia africana-caerulea</i>	Lamiaceae	Blue-flowered Salvia
<i>Salvia africana-lutea</i>	Lamiaceae	Brown-flowered Salvia along the roadsides as we left Cape Town
<i>Muraltia spinosa</i>	Polygonaceae	<b>Tortoise Berry Bush</b> purple flowered bush, common component of the Strandveld
<i>Leucodendron salignum</i>	Proteaceae	Small, yellow-leaved protea on leached 'hill-tops'
<i>Lycium afrum</i>	Solanaceae	Thorny, low-growing shrub with brownish-purple flowers

A quick circuit of a nearby hilltop failed to turn up any cranes, but we did find a pair of Steenbok, the male rather ungallantly fleeing, leaving the female sat amongst the grass. Capped Wheatear was common on the fence posts, with Pied Starling feeding amongst the grazing cattle.

The roadsides just before our coffee stop were home to the silvery-leaved, yellow-flowered *Leucospermum tomentosum*, yet another species with a highly restricted range and threatened by the invasion of its habitat by alien Australian acacias.

### Roadsides around Darling Hills

<i>Dimorphotheca pluvialis</i>	Asteraceae	The blue-tinged white daisy, very common at the roadside on the hilltop, but closed
<i>Ursinia sp</i>	Asteraceae	The large orange daisy, very common at the roadside on the hilltop, but closed
<i>Leucospermum tomentosum</i>	Proteaceae	<b>Woolly Pincushion</b> Yellow flowers, glaucous woolly leaves, restricted to this strip of sandy coastal fynbos

While we enjoyed our coffee, the rain really set in, and our visit to the Tinie Versveld Wild Flower Reserve on the Darling Hills was something of a wash out. A pair of Blue Cranes striding through the remnant Renosterveld were wonderful to see, but with the rain finally soaking through our clothes, we gave it up and headed down to the coast for our lunch at Jakobsbaai, passing a wonderful Black Harrier along the way.

### Tinie Versveld Reserve

<i>Tulbaghia cf capensis</i>	Amaryllidaceae (was Alliaceae)	Brown-flowered wild garlic
<i>Asparagus capensis</i>	Asparagaceae	Covered in white flowers
<i>Chasmanthe aethiopica</i>	Iridaceae	
<i>Arctopus echinatus</i>	Apiaceae	The broad, bristly leaves flat to the ground, with tight flower 'umbel' in the centre: looked like Mandrake
<i>Senecio littoreus</i>	Asteraceae	The small yellow 'daisy' across the reserve
<i>Gazania krebsiana</i>	Asteraceae	The big orange daisy
<i>Euphorbia tuberosa</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Fleshy, arrow-shaped leaves
<i>Pelargonium triste</i>	Geraniaceae	Moth-pollinated, with long tubes
<i>Indigofera procumbens</i>	Fabaceae	The low-growing red pea

After a heavily (but deliciously) Snoek-based lunch, we had a wander around the headland at Jakobsbaai. On the beach, White-fronted and Three-banded Plovers were joined by a Common Sandpiper and four very unseasonal Turnstones, with both Crowned and Bank Cormorants seen on the rocks in the bay.

Karoo Scrub-robin was new for us, a common bird here, and we found a confiding female brooding her nest with three small chicks beneath a prickly *Lycium tetrandrum* bush. Searching amongst the rocks, we found the bizarrely spidery, green *Freesia viridis* growing in profusion in the cracks.

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### Jakobsbaai

<i>Lachenalia rubida</i>	Asparagaceae (=Hyacinthaceae)	Spotty leaves near the Freesia. One flowering, but just going over
<i>Trachyandra ciliata</i>	Asphodelaceae	The large white 'asphodel' with fat succulent leaves
<i>Trachyandra divaricata</i>	Asphodelaceae	Finer leaved, in the flower bed by the restaurant
<i>Freesia viridis</i>	Iridaceae	Growing in cracks amongst the rocks at the back of the beach
<i>Othonna cylindrica</i>	Asteraceae	Yellow daisy bush with succulent, cylindrical leaves
<i>Osteospermum incanum</i>	Asteraceae	Yellow daisy bush, very thorny, round leaves
<i>Anthibolia laevis</i>	Aizoaceae	Greyish mesemb.
<i>Mesembryanthemum guerichianum</i>	Aizoaceae	<b>Salt Salad.</b> The succulent leaves growing along the path
<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	Solanaceae	Large, thorny shrub on the way into the village
<i>Lycium tetrandrum</i>	Solanaceae	Very thorny bush behind the beech
<i>Roepera morgsana</i>	Zygophyllaceae	The yellow-flowered bush with succulent, flat round leaves
<i>Roepera flexuosum</i>	Zygophyllaceae	A smaller, finer shrub with more orangey flowers

Heading off to our hotel just outside Langebaan, we passed a pond with a pair of South African Shelduck, while a Large-billed Lark posed on a fence post nearby. An Egyptian or Large Grey Mongoose posed on the top of a rock, a handsome Grey-winged Francolin crossed the road in front of us, and a colony of noisy Cape Weavers welcomed us to our home for the next couple of nights.

### Day 4 16<sup>th</sup> August 2017. West Coast National Park, Langebaan

Today we spent the whole day in the National Park, travelling south along the east side of the lagoon and then up the other side to the Postberg area. Along the way, we found Eland and Ostrich, two Steenbok, Grey-winged Francolin and a song-fighting Karoo Lark. A short comfort stop revealed a pair of Southern Grey Tits nest-building in the wall of the toilet block, while our spot for 'elevenses' on the Atlantic coast had African Black Oystercatcher, Crowned Cormorant and abundant Hartlaub's Gulls on the rocks, with Cape Gannet, Cape Cormorant and some distant White-chinned Petrels out to sea. Alas, try as we might, we couldn't spot any dolphins out beyond the surf.

Into the Postberg sector we travelled, with the sun beginning to make its presence felt, and the wide open grasslands were ablaze with great drifts of white *Dimorphotheca* and orange *Arctotis* daisies, one of the great attractions of this reserve. Also here we found more grazing animals: Cape Mountain Zebra in 3 or 4 small groups, totalling at least 24 animals, together with two rather lost-looking Blue Wildebeest (well outside their natural range), at least 8 Bontebok and a small group of Springbok, another animal which is perhaps a little outside its normal, natural range.

White-backed Mousebirds sunbathed in the tops of bushes, at least five Angulate Tortoises appeared amongst the rocks and bushes during the day, and we had two great sightings of Black Harrier quartering the flowery hillsides. But really, the Postberg was all about the flowers...

### West Coast National Park

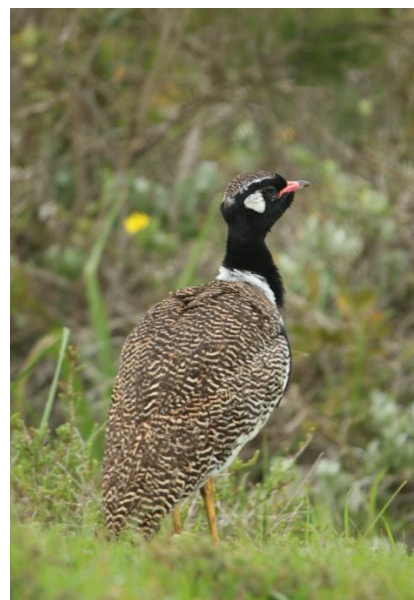
<i>Boophane haemanthoides</i>	Amaryllidaceae	Impressive 'fan' leaves
<i>Drimia exuviata</i>	Asparagaceae	'Asphodel' with dark glaucous leaves, the base wrapped in barred 'rattlesnake' sheath
<i>Lachenalia bulbifera</i>	Asparagaceae	Red lachenalia
<i>Lachenalia longibracteata</i>	Asparagaceae	Around the lunch spot, long bracts
<i>Lachenalia pustulata</i>	Asparagaceae	On the flowery 'flats' after lunch
<i>Trachyandra falcata</i>	Asphodelaceae	'Asphodel' with falcate leaves and sturdy flower spike
<i>Trachyandra muricata</i>	Asphodelaceae	'Asphodel' with broad, glossy leaves, branching flower spike with finer flowers



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<i>Wachendorfia multiflora</i>	Haemodoraceae	Brownish-yellow flowers, amongst the big granite rocks at the lunch spot
<i>Spiloxene cf ovata</i>	Hypoxidaceae	yellow star lily with reddish underside to petals, lunch spot
<i>Spiloxene cf serrata</i>	Hypoxidaceae	yellow star lily, without reddish underside, lunch spot
<i>Babiana ambigua</i>	Iridaceae	Seemed 'showier' than yesterday
<i>Chasmanthe floribunda</i>	Iridaceae	Red-flowered, with flowers on two sides of stem, by the rocks at lunch
<i>Freesia viridis</i>	Iridaceae	Dark maroon-brown flowered form
<i>Gladiolus carinatus</i>	Iridaceae	Mauve gladiolus
<i>Gladiolus caeruleus</i>	Iridaceae	Pale blue gladiolus, spotted. Endemic to the limestone around Saldanha
<i>Hesperantha cf radiata</i>	Iridaceae	Night-flowering, very fine
<i>Moraea tripetala</i>	Iridaceae	The pale creamy-blue 'iris'
<i>Moraea cf flaccida</i>	Iridaceae	The salmon pink Moraea
<i>Romulea cruciata</i>	Iridaceae	The large, carmine pink Romulea at lunch
<i>Romulea flava</i>	Iridaceae	Two colour forms, yellow and white. Both growing around the lunch spot.
<i>Romulea cf tabularis</i>	Iridaceae	The tiny pinky Romulea in the turf around the 'car park' at the lunch spot
<i>Thamnochortus spicigerus</i>	Restionaceae	The restio used for thatching, growing in tall clumps at the roadside
<i>Carpobrotus acinaciformis</i>	Aizoaceae	At the quarry
<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Aizoaceae	<b>Hottentot Fig</b> eg behind the beach
<i>Dorotheanthus bellidiformis</i>	Aizoaceae	large-flowered, showy pink mesemb around Postberg
<i>Tetragonia fruticosa</i>	Aizoaceae	Upright, yellow flowers, around the lunch spot
<i>Arctotis hirsuta</i>	Asteraceae	The common orange daisy in the mass flowering
<i>Dimorphotheca pluvialis</i>	Asteraceae	The common white daisy in the mass flowering
<i>Euryopos multifidus</i>	Asteraceae	Yellow daisy bush amongst rocks
<i>Othonna cylindrica</i>	Asteraceae	Yellow daisy bush with succulent leaves
<i>Tripteris clandestina</i>	Asteraceae	Tall, small-flowered 'sunflower' with three-winged seed capsule
<i>Heliophiila cf coronopifolia</i>	Brassicaceae	The blue flower around Postberg
<i>Gymnosporia heterophylla</i>	Celastraceae	Shrub with very big thorns
<i>Cotyledon orbiculata</i>	Crassulaceae	Big pigs ears
<i>Euclea racemosa</i>	Ebenaceae	Ironwood-relative, common shrub in the strandveld
<i>Euphorbia mauretanica</i>	Euphorbiaceae	The succulent shrubby Euphorbia with leaves and broad 'flowers'
<i>Euphorbia burmannii</i>	Euphorbiaceae	The very tubular, succulent shrubby Euphorbia with no leaves and with small 'flowers'
<i>Indigofera procumbens</i>	Fabaceae	Red pea at the lunch spot
<i>Lebeckia cf multiflorum</i>	Fabaceae	The yellow gorse-like bush
<i>Pelargonium fulgidum</i>	Geraniaceae	Bright red flowers
<i>Pelargonium gibbosum</i>	Geraniaceae	Woody Pelargonium, behind the beach
<i>Pelargonium hirtum</i>	Geraniaceae	Small pink-flowered Pelargonium at the lunch spot
<i>Ballota africana</i>	Lamiaceae	growing by the sage at the comfort stop in the morning
<i>Salvia africana-lutea</i>	Lamiaceae	The brown-flowered sage
<i>Diascia collina</i>	Scrophulariaceae	Purple scroph, endemic to sandy soils around Langebaan
<i>Hebenstretia cordata</i>	Scrophulariaceae	On the beach: succulent, upright, white head of flowers
<i>Hemimeris cf sabulosa</i>	Scrophulariaceae	The yellow 'calceolaria'-like snap dragon
<i>Nemesia cf azurea</i>	Scrophulariaceae	Annual 'snapdragon', bluey
<i>Roepera cordifolium</i>	Zygophyllaceae	Spreading, succulent disc-like leaves, behind the beach

The West Coast



Top, l to r: *Arctotis hirsuta* and Southern Black Korhaan  
Bottomleft: Blue Crane, South Africa's National bird. Bottom right: *Dorotheanthus bellidiformis* with *Diascia collina* (left),  
*Wachendorfia multiflora* (right) and *Dimorphotheca pluvialis* (bottom)

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Heading back to Langebaan, we could see good numbers of Greater Flamingo along with smaller groups of the deeper pink Lesser Flamingos out in the bay, and Yellow Canary, White-throated Canary and Wattled Starling all flew up from the roadside. We ended the afternoon with a visit to a disused quarry on the outskirts of town. Walking through grassland filled with the burrows of Cape Gerbils, we reached a point to view the cliff where a pair of wonderful Black Eagles were at their nest site, the female perched up on the cliff top while her smaller partner was on the nest, sheltering their offspring, a still-downy white chick. A pair of Rock Kestrels mated on a crag nearby, African Black Swifts flew in front of the cliff face and a little group of hyraxes, the eagles' favourite food, were grazing on a grassy slope nearby.

### Day 5 17<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Driving north, via Kuifkopvisvanger, Kardoesie and Knersvlakte

We had some kilometres to cover today, so were on the road just after 8am, heading northwards. Our first stop was at the Kuifkopvisvanger salt pan (meaning quiff-headed kingfisher, named after the Malachite Kingfisher). Here we had good close views of both Greater and Lesser Flamingo feeding side by side in the saline water. Avocets and Black-winged Stilts were also wading in the water, along with a handful of Cape Teal and a pair of South African Shelduck. The saltiest of the pans were home to the uncommon Chestnut-banded Plover, with Kittlitz's Plovers on the muddier banks and a single Three-banded Plover in a dry area near the way out. We also found a group of about 10 Little Stints, another of 'our' waders from the far north of Europe that migrate all the way down to the southern end of Africa, and a pair of Caspian Terns. On the way out, a Pied Kingfisher posed on the wires, but the eponymous be-quiffed Malachite Kingfisher was nowhere to be seen.

Back on the road, we saw a few groups of Blue Crane in roadside fields, including a group of about 7 who posed for photos, including a first year bird lacking the beautiful long tertial feathers of the adults, before we headed on further. Our coffee stop was at Kardosie, where the Cape Weavers came for crumbs and the large yellow-flowered daisy bush with fine leaves was *Euryops speciosissimus*.

After putting yet more kilometres behind us, we at last arrived at Quaggaskop on the Knersvlakte, an arid area of granitic rock on the edge of the succulent Karoo. Here we had our lunch before setting off to explore the landscape. What seemed at first to be an arid, rocky wilderness soon revealed itself to be crammed full of succulent plants, many of them tiny and, at first glance, rather unobtrusive. Under the expert guidance of Seth, we discovered a great variety of mesembs, of the family Aizoaceae, including the famous 'baby's bottoms' in the genus *Argyroderma*, as well as the lovely *Crassula columnaris* and the devilish *Sarcocaulon crassicaule*, a thorny, succulent Geraniaceae!

Other wildlife was rather hard to find, but some of us did see a couple of little Namaqua Sand Lizards, a big Tenebrionid beetle, and three small karoo-dwelling birds: Karoo Chat perching up on the bushes, a couple of Rufous-eared Warblers noisily calling, and a pair of Spike-heeled Larks chasing about in the distance.

Back at the vans, very happy with our couple of hours botanising, we headed off for one last leg of the journey, which took us up the side of the impressive escarpment of the Cedarberg Mountains to Nieuwoudtville, the "World Capital of Bulbs" where we would spend the next two nights.

### **Succulent Karoo: granitic outcrop at Quaggakop, Knersvlakte**

<i>Antimima watermeyerii</i>	Aizoaceae	Small leaves
<i>Antimima robusta</i>	Aizoaceae	Larger leaves
<i>Argyroderma delaetii</i>	Aizoaceae	Flat 'baby's bottom'
<i>Argyroderma fissum</i>	Aizoaceae	Smooth fingers
<i>Argyroderma pearsonii</i>	Aizoaceae	Rounded 'baby's bottom'
<i>Cephalophyllum spissum</i>	Aizoaceae	Rough fingers
<i>Conophytum calculus</i>	Aizoaceae	Large green balls
<i>Conophytum minutum</i>	Aizoaceae	Small, greyish, flat-topped 'balls'
<i>Conophytum subfenestratum</i>	Aizoaceae	'jelly sweet', almost subterranean
<i>Dactyloopsis digitatis</i>	Aizoaceae	Thumb and finger
<i>Dicrocaulon sp.</i>	Aizoaceae	Nearest relative of <i>Oophytum</i>

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<i>Merlephora purpurea-crocea</i>	Aizoaceae	Red-flowered mesemb, with fat 'fingers', near the picnic spot
<i>Monilaria pisiformis</i>	Aizoaceae	Yellow and white flowers, knuckled
<i>Oophytum nanum</i>	Aizoaceae	Tiny grey pebbles, pinky flowers
<i>Othonna intermedia</i>	Asteraceae	Succulent round leaves at end of the path
<i>Ruschia burtonii</i>	Aizoaceae	Purple flowers
<i>Tylocodon pygmaeus</i>	Crassulaceae	Tiny, dark, crystalline-leaved Tylocodon
<i>Sarcocornia xerophyllum</i>	Chenopodiaceae	
<i>Crassula capitella</i>	Crassulaceae	Red triangular leaves
<i>Crassula columnaris</i>	Crassulaceae	
<i>Sarcocaulon crassicaule</i>	Geraniaceae	The ferociously spiky succulent Geranium

### Day 6 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Nieuwoudtville

Today we stuck close to home, exploring the surrounding area of the 'bulb capital of the world'.

We started with a visit to the 'Kokerboom Forest', a hillside dotted with the amazing Quiver Trees, *Aloides dichotoma*, reminding us variously of California's Jerusalem Trees and New Zealand's Dragon Trees. Other plants were very few and far between on this arid hillside: the effects of the current drought were certainly plain to see. A young Peregrine of the African subspecies *Falco peregrinus minor* flew over, and we found an Aardwolf latrine, the droppings filled with invertebrate remains including bits of scorpions!

After the obligatory group photo with a particularly photogenic 'kokerboom', we headed back towards town, pausing to watch a small group of Karoo Korhaan in the distance. A roadside stop near the river gorge gave us views of a trio of Booted Eagles and a passing Lanner, along with the red-flowered *Lessertia microphylla*, and the wonderfully spiky *Tylocodon wallichii*. The "waterfall" was totally devoid of water, apart from a deep green pool at the bottom of the cliffs, where a pair of African Harrier-hawks was hunting in the fig trees. Amongst the rocks around the viewpoint, we found the bizarre, rodent-pollinated *Massonia depressa* as well as the more tree-like *Tylocodon paniculata*, the Bushman's Candle, while a Layard's Warbler crept through the bushes.

Onwards in our search for flowering bulbs, we moved to the other side of town and the Hantam area. Here at the roadside we found two small groups (of three and two) of the very characterful Yellow Mongoose, standing up on their hind legs to eyeball us, meerkat-style, before running off across the sheep field, carrying their white-tufted tail up like a flag as they ran. Nearby, and on a somewhat bigger scale, four Ludwig's Bustards were feeding in the fields, later flying close in front of the vehicles.

Bulbs were certainly present, in massive numbers, but alas, most weren't flowering due to the drought. Instead, we enjoyed the massive flat leaves of *Brunswigia bosmaniae* and the upright fans of *Boophane haemathoides*, while a Cape Clapper Lark was heard singing, but unfortunately not seen, in the distance.

Lunch was in the (very windy) grounds of the Hatam 'botanic gardens', actually a nature reserve protecting large areas of bulb-rich land that we explored once our picnics were gone, but flowers were very few and far between. A Southern Black Korhaan was our third bustard species of the day. One last area to check, and this time we found a few flowering bulbs, including the white star lily *Spiloxene serrata*, *Lachenalia elegans* in flower, with blotched purple leaves, the little yellow *Romulea diversiformis* and two species of Bulbinella, yellow *Bulbinella natans* and white *B. eberniflora*. A Cape Hare and a Steenbok both ran away from us across the fields, where a pair of Blue Cranes and four more Ludwig's Bustards were feeding.

For dinner, we returned to "Die Nedersetting", where as well as another tasty meal, some of us indulged in some retail therapy, leaving with some choice head wear on a floral theme...



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### Nieuwoudtville area

<i>Boophane haemanthoides</i>	Amaryllidaceae	The fan-leaved Amaryllid
<i>Brunsvigia bosmaniae</i>	Amaryllidaceae	The brown-margined, broad leaves, flat to the ground
<i>Lachenalia obscura</i>	Asparagaceae	The Lachenalia at the Botanic 'Garden' with zebra-striped leaf bases
<i>Lachenalia elegans</i>	Asparagaceae	The Lachenalia at the roadside with blotched leaves
<i>Massonia angustifolia</i>	Asparagaceae	Massonia with pleated leaves along the verge
<i>Massonia depressa</i>	Asparagaceae	The broad-leaved Massonia by the waterfall, pollinated by rodents
<i>Polyxena ensifolia</i>	Asparagaceae	Like a small Massonia with more pointed leaves, along the verge
<i>Aloe mitriformis</i>	Asphodelaceae	At the waterfall
<i>Aloidendron dichotomum</i>	Asphodelaceae	<b>Kokerboom, Quiver Tree</b>
<i>Bulbinella eberniflora</i>	Asphodelaceae	The white Bulbinella along the track
<i>Bulbinella elegans</i>	Asphodelaceae	In the garden, and at the Botanic 'Garden'
<i>Bulbinella natans</i>	Asphodelaceae	The yellow Bulbinella along the track
<i>Colchicum (=Androcymbium) cf eucomoides</i>	Colchicaceae	'Man in a Boat', at the top of the waterfall
<i>Spiloxene aquatica</i>	Hypoxidaceae	The white Spiloxene on the dry riverbed at the top of the waterfall
<i>Spiloxene serrata</i>	Hypoxidaceae	The white Spiloxene at the roadside
<i>Hesperantha pauciflora</i>	Iridaceae	Pinky Irid at the roadside
<i>Moraea miniata</i>	Iridaceae	The not-quite-open Moraea
<i>Romulea cf diversiformis</i>	Iridaceae	Yellow Romulea at the roadside
<i>Ruschia unca</i>	Aizoaceae	In the 'botanic garden'
<i>Dimorphotheca sinuata</i>	Asteraceae	The large white daisy at the roadside
<i>Elytropapis rhinocerotis</i>	Asteraceae	
<i>Felicia sp</i>	Asteraceae	Bluey Felicia
<i>Crassula nudicaulis</i>	Crassulaceae	Red succulent leaves, long fine red stem, growing in the base of a Euphorbia
<i>Tylecodon paniculata</i>	Crassulaceae	The large, thick-stemmed Tylecodon, by the waterfall
<i>Tylecodon wallichii</i>	Crassulaceae	Thorny stem, at the roadside
<i>Lessertia microphylla</i>	Fabaceae	The red-flowered shrubby pea at the roadside
<i>Lotononis hirsuta</i>	Fabaceae	The yellow hairy pea at the roadside
<i>Prosopis juliflora</i>	Fabaceae	<b>Mesquite</b> an invasive shrub of the arid areas, originally from Mexico
<i>Vachellia (=Acacia) karoo</i>	Fabaceae	The native acacia, growing along the river banks
<i>Hermannia alnifolia</i>	Malvaceae	Small-leaved bush with yellow flowers
<i>Nemesia cheiranthus</i>	Scrophulariaceae	Yellow and white snapdragon along the track
<i>Roepera lichtensteinianum</i>	Zygophyllaceae	The little yellow 'zygophyllum'

### Day 7 19<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Across the Tanqwa Karoo

Today was pretty much a travel day, the first of two days to get us back down to the south coast, but it was so much more than just travelling...

As we set off from Nieuwoudtville, a family of White-backed Mousebirds were busy at a bird table in the garden, bidding us farewell. Our first stop was the small town of Calvinia, "famous" for its festival of meat... along the way we passed Springbok, a couple of Ludwig's Bustards and some fly-by Black-headed Canaries.

From Calvinia we came crossed the Roggeveld Mountains on the east, where Rock Hyraxes bounced around each pile of rocks, a Steenbok ran away and we saw Karoo Korhaan, Karoo Chat and a singing Karoo Eremomela.



## SOUTH AFRICA 2017

Coming down from the mountains, we came into the Tanqwa Karoo National Park, a great arid plain stretching across to the sandstone Koue Bokkerveld Mountains to the west. Mountain Wheatear and Pale-winged Starling appeared as we came down from the heights, Karoo Chat was replaced by the closely-related Sickie-winged Chat, and 'beasts' came in the form of a trio of Red Hartebeest, not too far from the road, and a handful of Springbok, including one rather handsome melanistic animal, all sooty brown except for a white face. A Martial Eagle soared over head, and then we found another new antelope, perhaps the most handsome so far, a loose herd of Gemsbok, with at least 20 animals scattered across the plain.

Happy with our lot from the Tanqwa Karoo, we re-joined the 'road' (still a graded gravel track) and passed a pair of donkey carts, giving them a wave as we went by... While some of us were watching a pair of Bat-eared Foxes, the others were coming to a standstill with a flat tyre, and not long later, the donkey carts passed us in turn, at our impromptu lunch spot. Tyre fixed, lunches finished, and Acacia Rats disturbed in the 'just-popping-behind-the' bush, we were soon back on the road (and overtaking the donkey carts again), as if nothing had happened.

Up into the sandstone again, passing a grove of *Aloe microstigma* and a Klipspringer sighting for some, we had a short stop to look at *Protea laurifolia*, with the tiny orchid *Helothrix aspera* just coming into flower beneath them, and Caracal tracks and scat nearby. On the home straits, coming down into the Oppiberg valley, with *Leucadendron salignum* painting the hillsides with its red males and lemon yellow female plants, and *Protea laurifolia* in full flower as we dropped down to Ceres, and our home for the night.

### Day 8 20<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Ceres to De Hoop

While we waited for a new spare tyre to be procured, some of us headed up to the roadside above Ceres to get a closer look at yesterday's *Protea laurifolia*, finding two new *Gladiolus* at the same time. Tyre fixed, and we were back on the road again, heading out of the fruit-growing bowl of Ceres and southeastwards.

A stop at Burgerspas, above the town of Montagu, revealed a male *Protea* Canary, a local speciality endemic to the fynbos, singing from an exposed perch above the road. Beyond Montagu, our coffee stop was close to a hillside of *Aloe microstigma*, with tiny stars of *Romulea rosea* in the lawn around our feet, while a pair of Fiscal Flycatchers hunted from the wires and bushes.

Lunch was at the Tradouw Pass, in a tiny patch of Afromontane forest on a recently burned mountainside of fynbos. We had our picnic next to several Tree Fuchsias *Halleria lucida* (not related to the more familiar Fuchsias of South America, and gardens back home), where a Greater Double-collared Sunbird was feeding. The roadsides nearby were home to three *Ericas*, with a bright pink low-growing heath, a smaller paler species and the beautiful red and yellow tubular flowers of the taller growing *Erica versicolor*.

As we came down from the mountains into the coastal plain, we made more impromptu stops: a roadside patch of *Watsonia aletroides* and *Aloe ferox*; a singing Agulhas Long-billed Lark; several handsome posing Blue Cranes; and a hunting Black Harrier that flew alongside the vehicles, intent on his next meal. At Malagas we took the last hand-pulled ferry across the river, an experience in itself.

As we came to Potsberg, we spotted three Cape Vultures soaring over the mountain, and as we stopped and scanned we also found Denham's Bustard and three Rhebok grazing in the distance.

Into De Hoop Nature Reserve, and our progress towards our cottages was slowed down even further, with Eland, Bontebok, two more Rhebok and a couple of very content Scrub Hares (judging by the gingery nape patch and more typically shrubby habitat) all doing their best to distract us from checking in!

### **Roadside stops, from Ceres to De Hoop**

<i>Albuca canadensis</i> (=maxima)	Asparagaceae	The tall, sturdy Albuca
<i>Aloe ferox</i>	Asphodelaceae	The larger Aloe, after lunch
<i>Aloe microstigma</i>	Asphodelaceae	The smaller Aloe, before lunch

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<i>Gladiolus carinatus</i>	Iridaceae	Pale blue Gladiolus
<i>Gladiolus hyalinus</i>	Iridaceae	<b>Small Brown Afrikaaner</b> the smaller, neater Gladiolus
<i>Gladiolus cf. liliaceus</i>	Iridaceae	<b>Large Brown Afrikaaner</b> the larger, paler, showier Gladiolus
<i>Romulea rosea</i>	Iridaceae	The small Romulea at the coffee stop
<i>Watsonia aletroides</i>	Iridaceae	The tall, orange Watsonia
<i>Seersia angustifolia</i>	Anacardiaceae	
<i>Eriocephalus africanus</i>	Asteraceae	Bush with small white flowers
<i>Cunonia capensis</i>	Cunoniaceae	Afromontane forest
<i>Erica cf. hispidula</i>	Ericaceae	The pale, small-flowered Erica mixed in with nudiflora
<i>Erica cf. nudiflora</i>	Ericaceae	The pink Erica just after the lunch stop
<i>Erica versicolor</i>	Ericaceae	The tubular, yellow and red Erica just after the lunch stop
<i>Indigofera heterophylla</i>	Fabaceae	The low-growing salmon-red pea
<i>Leucodendron salignum</i>	Proteaceae	The common Leucodendron on the hillsides
<i>Protea laurifolia</i>	Proteaceae	The common Protea, with pinky 'bearded' flowers
<i>Protea nitida</i>	Proteaceae	The big tree-forming Protea, with round, glaucous leaves
<i>Protea repens</i>	Proteaceae	Narrower leaves, pale yellow flowers
<i>Cliffortia ruscifolia</i>	Rosaceae	The prickly-flowered shrub
<i>Halleria lucida</i>	Scrophulariaceae	The 'tree fuchsia' at the lunch stop
<i>Solanum linnaeanum</i>	Solanaceae	<b>Bitter Apple</b> , roadside stop

### Day 9 21<sup>st</sup> August 2017. De Hoop Nature Reserve

A relaxed start to the morning, we had a leisurely breakfast before venturing out, onto the slopes of the Potberg mountain where we explored the fynbos on the lower slopes. Here, flowering *Protea neriifolia* and *Leucospermum truncatulum* caught our eye, before we walked up through the 'plantation' of Eucalyptus to the slightly higher slopes, home to the endemic *Leucospermum cuneiforme ssp potbergiensis*.

With the day warming up, and the Cape Vultures soaring overhead, we headed back for lunch, stopping along the way in the fynbos on the limestone ridge, where the colourful *Protea obtusifolia* and two coned Leucodendrons (*L.galpinii* and *L.meridianum*) were the star attractions, along with a tiny, white Moraea.

Over lunch a little group of Streak-headed Seedeaters appeared in the garden, while Cape Spurfowl and Red-winged Starlings begged for crumbs and a group of White Pelicans circled low overhead. Fully fed, we headed out again, this time down to the coast, where, from the top of the dunes, we had great views of a number of Southern Right Whales (perhaps as many as 30 animals) in the sheltered inshore waters. Closest to us were a mother and calf duo, while a pair nearby seemed to be a courting couple judging by their behaviour, with quite a bit of rolling over and rubbing against each other going on, followed by a brief game of chase... A bit further out, two animals did their best to dispel the idea that Southern Right Whales are sluggish animals, undemonstrative animals, by breaching time after time, putting on quite a show.

<i>Lachenalia rubida</i>	Asphodelaceae	Amongst the dunes, with spotty leaves
<i>Massonia pustulata</i>	Asphodelaceae	Broad, warty leaves with a point, amongst the dunes
<i>Moraea cf. unguiculata</i>	Iridaceae	The little white Moraea
<i>Carpabrotus asinasiforme</i>	Aizoaceae	In the dunes
<i>Seersia glauca</i>	Anacardiaceae	
<i>Seersia crenata</i>	Anacardiaceae	
<i>Lobostemon lucidus</i>	Boraginaceae	The 'bugloss' low down on Potberg
<i>Cytinus sanguineus</i>	Cytinaceae	The red, cup-like root parasite, among the dunes
<i>Erica coccinea</i>	Ericaceae	Tubular flowers, protruding anthers, with bracts against the calyx

## SOUTH AFRICA 2017

<i>Erica cf formosa</i>	Ericaceae	White bell flowered heath
<i>Erica plukenetii</i>	Ericaceae	Tubular flowers, protruding anthers, bracts at the base of the pedicel
<i>Euphorbia cf burmanii</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Like a more delicate, branching <i>burmanii</i> at the Vlei viewpoint
<i>Euphorbia cf erythrina</i>	Euphorbiaceae	“flower heads” held bent over, on the burned patch in the afternoon
<i>Euphorbia tuberosa</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Flowering, on the burned patch in the afternoon
<i>Podalyria myrtilifolia</i> (= <i>P. cuneifolia</i> )	Fabaceae	The showy pink shrubby pea high on Potberg
<i>Hermannia althaeifolia</i>	Malvaceae	
<i>Polygala cf bracteolata</i>	Polygalaceae	The big, showier <i>Polygala</i> at the roadside
<i>Polygala myrtifolia</i>	Polygalaceae	In the carpark
<i>Polygala cf umbellata</i>	Polygalaceae	The small, pale pink <i>Polygala</i> at the roadside
<i>Aulex umbellata</i>	Proteaceae	“cross between a <i>Protea</i> and a <i>Leucodendron</i> ,” lower down the Potberg
<i>Leucospermum cuneiforme</i> ssp <i>potburgiensis</i>	Proteaceae	Taller, yellow-flowered, higher up on Potberg
<i>Leucospermum truncatum</i>	Proteaceae	The lower growing, salmon flowered <i>Leucospermum</i> , lower down on Potberg
<i>Leucadendron galpinii</i>	Proteaceae	Big ‘golf ball’ cones
<i>Leucadendron cf meridianum</i>	Proteaceae	Silvery cones
<i>Protea neriifolia</i>	Proteaceae	Pink ‘bearded’ <i>Protea</i>
<i>Protea obtusifolia</i>	Proteaceae	Showy, red and yellow ‘ <i>suzannae</i> ’ <i>Protea</i>
<i>Protea repens</i>	Proteaceae	
<i>Phyllica purpurea</i>	Rhamnaceae	The glaucous shrub, common component of the fynbos lower down on Potberg
<i>Adenandra gummifera</i>	Rutaceae	The sticky, pink-flowered shrub lower down on Potberg
<i>Agathosma sp</i>	Rutaceae	<b>Buchu</b> pinky flowered, strongly scented, higher up on Potberg
<i>Agathosma collina</i>	Rutaceae	Compact, white flowers, on the dunes
<i>Acmadenia mundiana</i>	Rutaceae	
<i>Acmadenia obtusata</i>	Rutaceae	In the dunes

### Day 10 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2017. De Hoop to Hermanus

After a windy, rainy night, we loaded the vans and set off for Hermanus, with plenty of stops along the way.

After checking out a couple of burned areas in the nature reserve itself, and more time spent with Blue Cranes in the farmland to the west, we reached the nature reserve at De Mond in time for coffee. The rain may have stopped, but the wind most definitely had not, and it was a blustery walk that took us along the boardwalk to the shore.

After lunch in Napier, we travelled through an area where the fynbos had been cleared for the cultivation of *Proteas* and *Leucospermums* for the cut flower trade. Nearby, some species-rich roadside gave a glimpse of what the fynbos might have been like before agriculture arrived, with *Protea compacta*, *Mimetes cucullatus* and the pretty *Erica onosmiflora*.

Reaching the coast, we continued westwards, skirting around Walker Bay, where ‘the landscape was painted pink’ by the endemic *Erica irregularis*.

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### De Hoop to Hermanus, various roadside stops

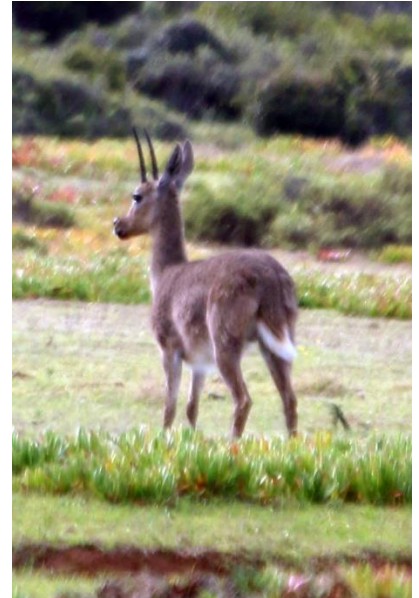
<i>Aponogeton distachys</i>	Aponogetonaceae	<b>Cape Pondweed</b> in ponds at the roadside
<i>Albuca canadensis</i>	Asparagaceae	Roadside, just after De hoop
<i>Lachenalia bulbifera</i>	Asparagaceae	De Mond
<i>Colchicum (=Androcymbium) eucomoides</i>	Colchicaceae	De Mond, 'men in a boat'
<i>Pronium serratum</i>	Prioniaceae	<b>Palmiet</b> The sugar cane-like marsh grass
<i>Seersia glauca</i>	Anacardiaceae	Around the picnic area, De Mond
<i>Athanasia dentata</i>	Asteraceae	Twisty, wiry daisy at the last roadside stop
<i>Metalasia muricata</i>	Asteraceae	Common white umbel-forming bush along the roadsides
<i>Lobostemon curvifolius</i>	Boraginaceae	The pale shrubby bugloss, De Hoop
<i>Erica irregularis</i>	Ericaceae	The very common pink heather, 'painting the landscape pink' around Walker Bay, just before Hermanus
<i>Erica onosmiflora</i>	Ericaceae	Tubular, pink flowers, south of Napier
<i>Erica penicilliformis</i>	Ericaceae	The small flowered, white Erica south of Napier
<i>Erica vestita</i>	Ericaceae	Red tubular flowers, pointing upwards, De Hoop
<i>Euphorbia cf erythrina</i>	Euphorbiaceae	Tight drooping head, in the burned area, De Hoop
<i>Euphorbia peplus</i>	Euphorbiaceae	<b>Petty Spurge</b> , garden weed in Napier
<i>Psoralea pinnata</i>	Fabaceae	pale blue flowered pea tree
<i>Pelargonium cf betulinum</i>	Geraniaceae	In the burned area, before the downpour, De Hoop
<i>Pelargonium capitatum</i>	Geraniaceae	De Mond
<i>Pelargonium cf myrhifolium</i>	Geraniaceae	At the last roadside stop, cerise flowers, v dissected leaves
<i>Hermannia trifoliata</i>	Malvaceae	Small red flowers in tight, drooping head, in the burned area, De Hoop
<i>Leucodendron coniferum</i>	Proteaceae	Large Leucodendron, along the roadside south of Napier
<i>Leucodendron meridianum</i>	Proteaceae	De Hoop
<i>Leucodendron sp</i>	Proteaceae	Small Leucodendron along the roadside, south of Napier
<i>Mimetes cucullatus</i>	Proteaceae	South of Napier
<i>Protea compacta</i>	Proteaceae	South of Napier
<i>Serruria elongata</i>	Proteaceae	South of Napier
<i>Melianthus major</i>	Melianthaceae	Maroon flower spikes, Acanthus-like leaves
<i>Sideroxylon inerma</i>	Sapotaceae	Milkwood trees at De Mond
<i>Gnidia cf juniperifolia</i>	Thymeleaceae	Creamy yellow flowers, De Hoop
<i>Gnidia squarrosa</i>	Thymeleaceae	Creamy yellow flowers at the last roadside stop
<i>Chascanum cernuum</i>	Verbenaceae	The white flower spikes on the recently burned area, De Hoop
<i>Roepera sp</i>	Zygophyllaceae	Around the picnic area, De Mond

### Day 11 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2017. Betty's Bay: Stony Point and Harold Porter Botanic Gardens

From Hermanus, we headed westwards, driving around the base of the Kogelberg Mountains, one of the most biodiverse spots on the planet, with up to 1100 plant species recorded in a single square kilometre. Reaching Betty's Bay, as we approached Stony Point, we stopped by a damp depression at the side of the road, from which the churring call of a critically endangered (and very small) frog species could be heard. The suitably-named Micro Frog is found at fewer than 10 sites, with very specific requirements, notably the need for temporary seasonal waterbodies fed by very clean groundwater. The same pool was also home to the larger and louder Clicking Stream Frog.



**'Big Game' of The Cape**



Clockwise, from top left: Cape Mountain Zebra, Rhebok, Gemsbok, Cape Eland and Bontebok



## SOUTH AFRICA 2017

At Stony Point, we visited the African Penguin colony: the first penguins turned up here in 1982, and the colony has since grown to more than 2000 pairs, which were busy going about their business, seemingly unconcerned by our presence. Similarly unphased were the Rock Hyraxes that were lazing about on the rocks. In contrast, the cormorant colony (in which all four of South Africa's coastal cormorants were breeding) was a hive of activity, with Cape Cormorants in particularly flying back and forth as they put the final touches to their nests.

Offshore, a young Southern Giant Petrel flew by, a visitor from the sub-Antarctic islands way to the south, while a Cape Girdled Lizard posed on the rocks.

After coffee, we moved a little way inland to the Harold Porter Botanic Gardens, where we explored both the formal gardens themselves, and the fynbos up towards the waterfalls, where the native vegetation was rather handily labelled with species information!

A quick look out to sea from the seafront at Hermanus failed to reveal any whales, but a Cape Fur Seal was rolling about in the kelp, and a pod of Indo-Pacific Bottle-nosed Dolphins moved swiftly across the bay

### Hermanus: in the guesthouse garden

<i>Protea aristata</i>	Proteaceae	Bright red flowers, from the edge of the Karoo
<i>Protea compacta</i>	Proteaceae	
<i>Protea lorifolia</i>	Proteaceae	With back-curved bracts

### Harold Porter Botanic Gardens

<i>Widdringtonia nodiflora</i>	Cupressaceae
<i>Podocarpus latifolius</i>	Podocarpaceae

### Mountain Cypress

**Real Yellow-wood** the national tree, a Podocarp

<i>Disa uniflora</i>	Orchidaceae
<i>Prionium serratum</i>	Prioniaceae

**Red Disa** the (not-flowering) orchid at the waterfall  
**Palmiet** along the riverbank

<i>Cuscuta angulata</i>	Convolvulaceae (was Cuscutaceae)
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The yellow string-like dodder

<i>Curtisia dentata</i>	Cornaceae
<i>Cunonia capensis</i>	Cunoniaceae

Used for making spears

**Rooiels, Red Needles** the tree whose only relatives are from New Caledonia, with spoon-like buds

<i>Virgilia orebodies</i>	Fabaceae
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Pea-tree, pioneer tree in gaps in forest, seeds wait in the seedbank for up to 400 years

<i>Saltera sarcocolla</i>	Penaeaceae
<i>Myrsine africana</i>	Primulaceae
<i>Protea nitida</i>	Proteaceae
<i>Retzia capensis</i>	Stilbaceae

### Day 12 24<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Fernykloof and back to Cape Town

The day dawned grey and drizzly, the perfect weather for botanising at the Fernykloof private nature reserve, just along the base of the mountains from the guesthouse, where a band of doughty ladies were renewing the cut flower 'gallery' in the visitor centre.

### Fernykloof

<i>Gladiolus hirsutus</i>	Iridaceae	Pink gladiolus, night-flowering
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<i>Erica coccinea</i>	Ericaceae
<i>Erica cf. pencilliformis</i>	Ericaceae
<i>Erica perspicua</i> var <i>latifolia</i>	Ericaceae
<i>Erica plukenetii</i>	Ericaceae

The small white-flowered Erica at the roadside

Large pinky-white flowered Erica along the roadside

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<i>Erica sessiliflora</i>	Ericaceae	Green Heath
<i>Erica tristis</i>	Ericaceae	The tree heath
<i>Muraltia heisteria</i>	Polygalaceae	Purple spiny Polygala
<i>Polygala virgata</i>	Polygalaceae	The very tall, lanky Polygala in the gardens
<i>Aulex umbellata</i>	Proteaceae	
<i>Leucospermum cordifolium</i>	Proteaceae	The big orange pin-cushion
<i>Serruria elongata</i>	Proteaceae	

Lunch was back in Hermanus, where we enjoyed one last look at the whales, with at least four animals some way off-shore, way out past the impressive waves, with one or two 'tail-lobbing' repeatedly, waving us on our way.

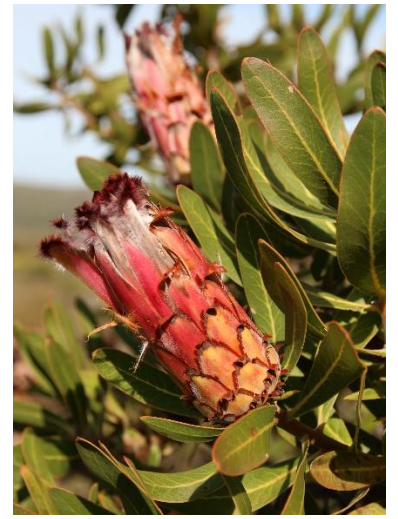
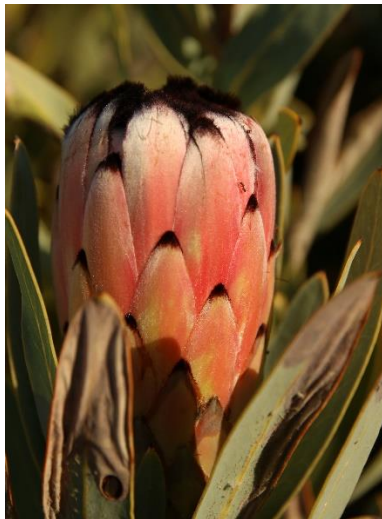
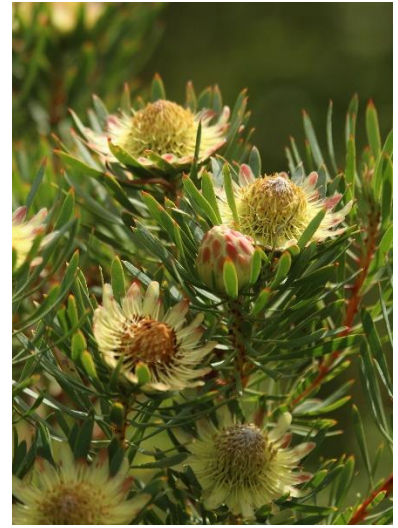
All fed and watered, and we travelled west one last time, for a final brief stop at the wonderfully-named but initially most unprepossessing Harmony Flats nature reserve, an undeveloped lot of no more than 4 hectares in Gordon's Bay. The site protects an area of lowland fynbos growing on alluvial sands, and we could see before us almost the entirety of this vegetation type that remains on the planet... a sobering thought! This one site supports around 230 species of plants, including *Ixia versicolor* at its only site, and one of just two remaining populations of the tiny orchid *Disa tenella*. And, after an introduction to the site and conservation by the site manager Reggie, we had a look at this little orchid in flower. One tiny corner of Harmony Flats supports around 40 plants, and we saw at least a third of these...

### Harmony Flats

<i>Lachenalia orchiioides</i>	Asparagaceae
<i>Trachyandra hirsuta</i>	Asphodelaceae
<i>Romulea cruciata</i>	Iridaceae
<i>Disa tenella</i>	Orchidaceae
<i>Cyphia volubilis</i>	Campanulaceae
<i>Drosera trinervias</i>	Droseraceae
<i>Pelargonium myrrhifolium</i>	Geraniaceae
<i>Hermannia cuneifolia</i>	Malvaceae
<i>Leucodendron lanigerum</i>	Proteaceae
<i>Protea scolymocephala</i>	Proteaceae

And with that, as we were shouted at by a Blacksmith Plover, we bade farewell to Reggie and were soon back at Cape Town airport, waving goodbye to Dalton and Seth one last time.

## Proteas of The Cape



Top row, l to r: *Protea cynaroides*, *P. repens* and *P. scolymocephala*  
First row, l to r: *Protea laurifolia*, *P. nitida* and *P. neriifolia*  
Second row, l to r: *Protea aristata*, *P. obtusifolia* and *P. compacta*



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**Bulbs of The Cape**



Top row, l to r: *Gladiolus liliaceus*, *G. carinatus* and *G. bonaspei*  
 First row, l to r: *Romulea cruciate*, *Babiana ambigua* and *Babiana ringens*  
 Second row, l to r: *Lachenalia longibracteata*, *L. bulbifera* and *L. orchiioides*

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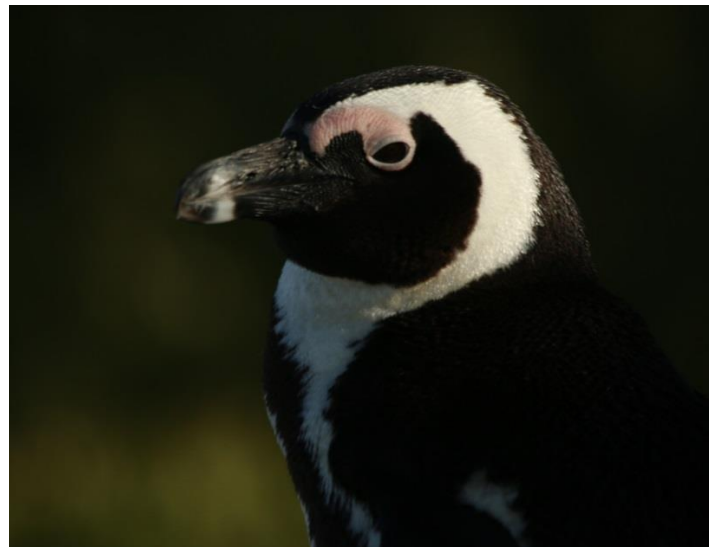
ANIMAL SPECIES LISTS: X = seen, H = heard only, S = tracks and/or signs, D = dead,  
C = domestic animal

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	13 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>
<b>MAMMALS</b>														
<b>Order Primates (Apes &amp; Monkeys)</b>														
	Chacma Baboon	<i>Papio ursinus</i>		X			X		X	X	X	X		X
<b>Order Tubulidentata (Aardvark)</b>														
	Aardvark	<i>Orycteropus afer</i>						S	S					
<b>Order Lagomorpha (Hares)</b>														
	Cape Hare	<i>Lepus capensis</i>					X	X						
	Scrub Hare	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>								X	X			
<b>Order Rodenta (Rodents)</b>														
	Dune Mole Rat	<i>Bathyrgerus suillis</i>		S										S
	Cape Mole Rat	<i>Georychus capensis</i>			S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
	Cape Porcupine	<i>Hystrix africaeaustralis</i>			S		S	D			S			
	Four-striped Grass Rat	<i>Rhabdomys pumilio</i>		X		X		X			X			
	Acacia Rat	<i>Thalomys paeudulus</i>							X					
	Cape Gerbil	<i>Gerbilliscus afra</i>				S	S							
	Eastern Grey Squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	X											
<b>Order Carnivora</b>														
	Bat-eared Fox	<i>Otocyon megalotis</i>					D		X					
	Egyptian Mongoose	<i>Herpestes ichneumon</i>			X						X			
	Cape Grey Mongoose	<i>Galerella (=Herpestes) pulverulenta</i>		X		X				X				
	Yellow Mongoose	<i>Cynictis penicillata</i>						X		X		X		
	Marsh Mongoose	<i>Atilax paludinosus</i>		X										
	Caracal	<i>Caracal caracal</i>							S					
	Aardwolf	<i>Proteles cristata</i>						S						
	Cape Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus (p.) pusillus</i>		X									X	X
<b>Order Hyracoidea (Hyraxes)</b>														
	Cape Rock Hyrax	<i>Procavia capensis</i>		X	X	X			X		X		X	
<b>Order Perissodactyla (Odd-toed Ungulates)</b>														
	Cape Mountain Zebra	<i>Equus zebra zebra</i>		X		X				X	X			
<b>Order Artiodactyla Family Bovidae (Antelopes and Cattle)</b>														
	Rhebok	<i>Pelea capreolus</i>								X	X	X		
	(Southern) Springbok	<i>Antidorcas (m.) marsupialis</i>				X	X		X	X		C		
	Cape Gysbok	<i>Raphicerus melanotis</i>		X										S
	Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	(Cape) Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus (o.) oreotragus</i>							X					
	Bush Duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>			S									
	Gemsbok	<i>Oryx gazella</i>							X					
	Blue Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>				X								
	Bontebok	<i>Damaliscus pygargus</i>		X		X				X	X	X		
	Red Hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus (Bucephalus) caama</i>							X					
	Cape Eland	<i>Taurotragus o. oryx</i>		X		X				X	X	X	C	C
<b>Order Cetacea (Whales and Dolphins)</b>														
	Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>									X			X
	Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>		?										
	Indo-Pacific Bottle-nosed Dolphin	<i>Tursiops aduncus</i>											x	



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**Birds of The Cape**



Clockwise, from top left: Black Harrier, Southern Fiscal, African Penguin, Water Thick-knee and Orange-breasted Sunbird

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<b>BIRDS</b>														
<b>Family Struthiornidae (Ostrich)</b>														
	Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
<b>Family Numidae (Guineafowl)</b>														
	Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Phasianidae (Francolins and Quails)</b>														
	Grey-winged Francolin	<i>Scleroptila africanus</i>			X	X								
	Cape Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis capensis</i>	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Anatidae (Ducks, Geese and Swans)</b>														
	Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>		X			X	X	X	X	X	X		
	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	South African Shelduck	<i>Tadorna cana</i>			X		X	X	X	X				
	Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>		X	X		X				X	X		
	Yellow-billed Duck	<i>Anas undulata</i>	X	X			X				X	X		
	Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>		X										
	Cape Shoveler	<i>Anas smithii</i>		X							X			
	Southern Pochard	<i>Netta erythrophthalma</i>		X										
<b>Family Podicipedidae (Grebes)</b>														
	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>		X					X	X	X	X		
	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>									X	X		
<b>Family Phoenicopteridae (Flamingos)</b>														
	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopus roseus</i>	X	X		X	X				X	X		
	Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopus minor</i>				X	X							
<b>Family Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)</b>														
	Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Cape Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Laughing Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>			X	X		X	X	X			X	X
	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oenan capensis</i>					X							
<b>Family Caprimulgidae (Nightjars)</b>														
	Fiery-necked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus pectoralis</i>									X			
<b>Family Apodidae (Swifts)</b>														
	Alpine Swift	<i>Apus melba</i>					X	X			X	X		X
	African Black Swift	<i>Apus barbatus</i>				X				X		X		
	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>				X			X			X		
	Horus Swift	<i>Apus horus</i>										X		
<b>Family Rallidae (Rails and Crakes)</b>														
	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		X								X		
	Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>		X		X			X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Gruidae (Cranes)</b>														
	Blue Crane	<i>Anthropoides paradiseus</i>			X		X	X		X	X	X		
<b>Family Otidae (Bustards)</b>														
	Denham's Bustard	<i>Neotis denhami</i>								X				
	Ludwig's Bustard	<i>Neotis ludwigii</i>						X	X					
	Southern Black Korhaan	<i>Afrotis afra</i>			X	X		X	X					
	Karoo Korhaan	<i>Euopodotis vigorsii</i>						X	X					
<b>Family Spheniscidae (Penguins)</b>														
	African Penguin	<i>Spheniscus demersus</i>											X	

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<b>Family Procellariidae (Petrels and Shearwaters)</b>														
	a Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes sp</i>		X										
	Southern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>											X	
	White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>				X								
<b>Family Ciconiidae (Storks)</b>														
	White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>		X										
<b>Family Threskiornithidae (Ibises and Spoonbills)</b>														
	Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	X	X										X
	African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>										X		X
<b>Family Ardeidae (Hérons)</b>														
	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>			X				X	X	X	X	X	X
	Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>		X	X							X		
	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X	X
	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>									X	X		
<b>Family Pelecanidae (Pelicans)</b>														
	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>		X							X	X		
<b>Family Sulidae (Gannets and Boobies)</b>														
	Cape Gannet	<i>Morus capensis</i>		X	X	X								
<b>Family Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants)</b>														
	White-breasted (=Great) Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax (carbo) lucidus</i>		X	X					X	X	X	X	X
	Bank Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax neglectus</i>			X								X	
	Cape Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax capensis</i>		X	X	X							X	X
	Crowned Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax coronatus</i>			X	X					X		X	
	Long-tailed (=Reed) Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i>								X		X		
<b>Family Anhingidae (Darters)</b>														
	African Darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>		X						X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Burhinidae (Thick-knees)</b>														
	Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>		X							H	X		
	Spotted Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>									H		X	
<b>Family Haematopodidae (Oystercatchers)</b>														
	African Black Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus moquini</i>		X	X	X						X	X	X
<b>Family Recurvirostridae (Stilts and Avocets)</b>														
	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>		X		X	X					X		
	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>		X			X							
<b>Family Charadriidae (Plovers)</b>														
	Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X		X
	Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>			X	X	X		X	X	X	X		
	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>										X		
	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>			X		X					X		
	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>		X	X		X							
	Chestnut-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>					X							
	White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>			X							X		
<b>Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers)</b>														
	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>		X										
	Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>		X										
	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			X									

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	Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>			X									
	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>					X							
<b>Family Laridae (Gulls)</b>														
	Cape (=Kelp) Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus vetula</i>		X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X
	Grey-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus poiocephalus</i>		X										
	Hartlaub's Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus hartlaubii</i>	X	X	X	X	X					X	X	X
<b>Family Sternidae (Terns)</b>														
	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>					X							
	Greater Crested (=Swift) Tern	<i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i>		X	X	X	X					X	X	X
	Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>				X								
	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>			X									X
	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>		X										
<b>Family Stercorariidae (Skuas)</b>														
	Subantarctic (=Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta (antarctica) lonnbergi</i>		X										
<b>Family Strigidae (Owls)</b>														
	Spotted Eagle Owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>	X								H			
<b>Family Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles and Vultures)</b>														
	Cape Vulture	<i>Gyps coprotheres</i>								X	X			
	Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>							X					
	Verreaux's Eagle	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>				X								
	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>					X	X						
	Black-chested Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus pectorails</i>						X						
	Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus (m.) aegyptius</i>											X	
	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>		X	X	X	X		X					X
	Jackal Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufofuscus</i>		X	X				X	X	X	X		X
	Steppe Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo vulpinus</i>			X									
	African Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>		X		X	X							
	Black Harrier	<i>Circus maurus</i>			X	X				X		X		
	Pale Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax canorus</i>							X	X				
	Great (=Black) Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter melanoleucus</i>												
	African Goshawk	<i>Accipiter tachiro</i>		X								H		
	African Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>						X						
<b>Family Coliidae (Mousebirds)</b>														
	Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>								X	X	X		X
	White-backed Mousebird	<i>Colius leucocoliuscephalus</i>				X			X					
	Red-faced Mousebird	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>									X			
<b>Family Upupidae (Hoopes)</b>														
	African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>						X	X					
<b>Family Cerylidae (Water Kingfishers)</b>														
	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>				X	X			X				
<b>Family Lybiidae (African Barbets)</b>														
	Acacia Pied Barbet	<i>Tricholaema leucomelus</i>							H			X		
<b>Family Falconidae (Falcons)</b>														
	Rock Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicolous</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X
	Lanner	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>					X	X		X				
	Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>		X				X						
<b>Family Alaudidae (Larks)</b>														
	Red-capped Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>			X			X		X	X			
	Large-billed Lark	<i>Galerida magnirostris</i>			X	X	X	X	X					
	Karoo Lark	<i>Calendulauda albescens</i>				X								

# SOUTH AFRICA 2017

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	Cape Clapper Lark	<i>Mirafrapa apiata</i>						H						
	Spike-heeled Lark	<i>Chersomanes albofasciata</i>					X							
	Agulhas Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda brevirostris</i>								X				
	Grey-backed Sparrow-lark	<i>Eremopterix verticalis</i>						X						
<b>Family Hirundinidae (Swallows and Martins)</b>														
	Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>		X		X		X	X	X	X		X	X
	Brown-throated (=Plain) Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>						X			X	X		
	Banded Martin	<i>Riparia cincta</i>				X	X							
	Greater Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis cucullata</i>									X	X		
	White-throated Swallow	<i>Hirundo albigularis</i>		X			X					X		
	Black Saw-wing	<i>Psaldiprocne pristoptera</i>									X	X	X	
<b>Family Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)</b>														
	Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Cape Longclaw	<i>Macronyx capensis</i>		X										
	African (=Grassland) Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>			X			X	X	X	X	X		X
<b>Family Pycnonotidae (Bulbuls)</b>														
	Cape Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus capensis</i>		X		X		X		X	X	X	X	X
	Sombre Greenbul	<i>Andropadus importunus</i>	X										X	
<b>Family Turdidae (Thrushes)</b>														
	Olive Thrush	<i>Turdus olivaceus</i>	X	X	X					X				X
	Karoo Thrush	<i>Turdus smithi</i>						X	X					
<b>Family Muscicapidae (Chats and Flycatchers)</b>														
	Familiar Chat	<i>Oenanthe familiaris</i>		X									X	
	Sickle-winged Chat	<i>Emarginata sinuata</i>							X					
	Karoo Chat	<i>Emarginata schlegelii</i>					X		X					
	Mountain Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe monticola</i>							X	X				
	Capped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>			X		X	X	X	X	X	X		
	African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>					X	X	X	X		X		
	Karoo Scrub-robin	<i>Cercotrichas coryphoeus</i>			X	X		X	X					
	Cape Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha caffra</i>	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Fiscal Flycatcher	<i>Sigelus silens</i>								X	X	X		X
<b>Family Stenostiridae (Fairy Flycatchers)</b>														
	Fairy Flycatcher	<i>Stenostira scita</i>							X					
<b>Family Platysteiridae (Batises and Wattle-eyes)</b>														
	Cape Batis	<i>Batis capensis</i>	X								X			
	Pririt Batis	<i>Batis pririt</i>						X						
<b>Family Cisticolidae (Cisticolas, Prinias, Apalises and allies)</b>														
	Karoo Eremomela	<i>Eremomela gregalis</i>							X					
	Cloud Cisticola	<i>Cisticola textrix</i>			X					X				
	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>												X
	Levaillant's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola tinniens</i>		X										
	Grey-backed Cisticola	<i>Cisticola subruficapilla</i>		X	X	X		X						
	Karoo Prinia	<i>Prinia maculosa</i>	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Rufous-eared Warbler	<i>Malcorus pectoralis</i>					X							
	Bar-throated Apalis	<i>Apalis thoracica</i>				X				X	X	X		X
<b>Family Sylviidae (Sylviid Warblers/Babblers)</b>														
	Chestnut-vented Warbler (=Tit-Babbler)	<i>Sylvia subcaeruleum</i>				H								
	Layard's Warbler (=Tit-Babbler)	<i>Sylvia layardi</i>						X						



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<b>Family Macrosphenidae (Crombecs and African Warblers)</b>														
	Cape Grassbird	<i>Sphenoeacus afer</i>				X								
	Victorin's Warbler	<i>Cryptillas victorini</i>											H	
	Long-billed Crombec	<i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>								X				
<b>Family Paridae (Tits)</b>														
	Grey Tit	<i>Parus afer</i>				X								
<b>Family Remizidae (Penduline Tits)</b>														
	Cape Penduline Tit	<i>Anthoscopus minutus</i>				X								
<b>Family Zosteropidae (White-eyes)</b>														
	Cape White-eye	<i>Zosterops capensis</i>	X	X	X	X			X	X	X		X	X
<b>Family Promeropidae (Sugarbirds)</b>														
	Cape Sugarbird	<i>Promerops cafer</i>	X	X					X	X			X	X
<b>Family Nectarinidae (Sunbirds)</b>														
	Malachite Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia famosa</i>		X	X	X		X		X		X		X
	Orange-breasted Sunbird	<i>Anthobaphes violaceae</i>		X							X		X	
	Amethyst Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra amethystine</i>									X	X		
	Greater Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris afer</i>								X				
	Southern Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris chalybeus</i>	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Laniidae (Shrikes)</b>														
	Common Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
<b>Family Malaconotidae (Bushshrikes)</b>														
	Southern Boubou	<i>Laniarius ferrugineus</i>		X						X	X	X		
	Southern Tchagra	<i>Tchagra tchagra</i>								X				
	Bokmakierie	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>		H		X	X	X		X				
<b>Family Dicruridae (Drongos)</b>														
	Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>										X		X
<b>Family Corvidae (Crows)</b>														
	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Cape Rook (=Cape Crow)	<i>Corvus capensis</i>					X	X	X	X	X	X		
	White-necked Raven	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>		X	X	X				X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Sturnidae (Starlings)</b>														
	Pied Starling	<i>Lamprotornis bicolor</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	Red-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>	X	X	X	X					X	X	X	X
	Pale-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus nabouroup</i>							X					
	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>				X								
<b>Family Passeridae (Sparrows)</b>														
	Cape Sparrow	<i>Passer melanurus</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
<b>Family Ploceidae (Weavers)</b>														
	Cape Weaver	<i>Ploceus capensis</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>				X								
	Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>		X	X	X	X					X		
	Yellow Bishop	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>		X			X	X		X		X		X
<b>Family Estrildidae (Waxbills)</b>														
	Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>				X				X				
	Swee Waxbill	<i>Coccygia melanotis</i>								X			X	H
<b>Family Fringillidae (Finches)</b>														
	Protea Canary	<i>Crithagra leucoptera</i>								X				
	White-throated Canary	<i>Crithagra albogularis</i>			X	X	X	X		X				

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	Streaky-headed Seedeater	<i>Crithagra gularis</i>									X			X
	Yellow Canary	<i>Crithagra flaviventris</i>			X	X				X	X	X		
	Cape Canary	<i>Crithagra canicollis</i>	X					X		X	X	X		
	Forest Canary	<i>Crithagra scotops</i>	X							X				
	Cape Siskin	<i>Crithagra totta</i>								H			X	
	Black-headed Canary	<i>Serinus alario</i>						X	X					
	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	X											
<b>Family Emberizidae (Buntings)</b>														
	Cape Bunting	<i>Emberiza capensis</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X				

<b>REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS</b>			
	Black Girdled Lizard	<i>Cordylus niger</i>	two individuals sunning themselves on the rocks at Cape Point lighthouse, 14 <sup>th</sup> . on the boulder at lunch at Postberg, 16 <sup>th</sup>
	Cape Girdled Lizard	<i>Cordylus cordylus</i>	One on the rocks at Stoney Point, 23 <sup>rd</sup>
	Knox's Desert Lizard	<i>Meroles knoxii</i>	the small lizard behind the beach at Oliphants Bay, 14 <sup>th</sup>
	Namaqua Sand Lizard	<i>Pedioplanis namaquensis</i>	Very fast, at Knersvlakte, 17 <sup>th</sup>
	Southern Rock Agama	<i>Agama atra</i>	One on rocks by the dry waterfall, 18 <sup>th</sup>
	Cape Skink	<i>Trachylepis capensis</i>	one unstriped individual on the path side in Kirstenbosch Botanic Gardens, 13 <sup>th</sup>
	Angulate Tortoise	<i>Chersina angulate</i>	one behind the beach at Oliphants Bay and another on the roadside nearby, 14 <sup>th</sup> . At least 5 during the day at West Coast NP, 15 <sup>th</sup> One in the 'botanic garden' near Hatam and at least three dead animals along the farm track, 18 <sup>th</sup> One in Harold Porter Botanic Gardens, 23 <sup>rd</sup>
	Western Leopard Toad	<i>Amietophrynus pantherinus</i>	One young animal near the 'extinct' Erica at Rondevlei, 14 <sup>th</sup>
	Peninsula Moss Frog	<i>Arthroleptella lightfooti</i>	Heard chirruping from the small pond at Kirstenbosch, 13 <sup>th</sup>
	De Villiers's Moss Frog	<i>Arthroleptella villiersi</i>	Heard in Harold Porter Botanic Gardens, 23 <sup>rd</sup>
	Clicking Stream Frog	<i>Strongylopus grayii</i>	Clicking from the pool near Stoney Point, 23 <sup>rd</sup>
	Micro Frog	<i>Microbatrachella capensis</i>	Churring from the pool near Stoney Point, 23 <sup>rd</sup>
	Cape River Frog	<i>Amietia fuscigula</i>	2 in the stream at Harold Porter Botanic Gardens, 23 <sup>rd</sup>