



TROPICAL
BIRDING



**MADAGASCAR:
“8TH CONTINENT”
EXPRESS**

A Tropical Birding Custom Trip

**November 17-24, 2018
Guide: Ken Behrens**

All photos taken during this trip
by Ken Behrens

Photo to the left shows a Helmet Vanga

TOUR SUMMARY

Madagascar has long been a core destination for Tropical Birding, and with the opening of a satellite office in the country several years ago, we further solidified our expertise in the “Eighth Continent.” This custom trip was designed for people with limited vacation time, who wanted to see as many Malagasy endemic birds and a good selection of other wildlife in as short a time as possible. We visited two locations: the southwestern spiny forest and the eastern rainforest. The spiny forest was reached via domestic flights, while the rainforest site of Andasibe is only a few hours from the capital of Antananarivo by road.

Although this trip had a definite bird bias, like all of our Madagascar tours it was essentially a general natural history tour. We enjoyed observing and photographing whatever we could find, from lemurs to chameleons to bizarre invertebrates. Madagascar is rich in wonderful birds, and we enjoyed these to the fullest. But its mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and insects are just as wondrous and accessible, and a trip that ignored them would be sorely missing out. We also enjoyed the cultural riches of Madagascar, the small villages full of shyly waving children, the zebu carts which seem straight out of the Middle Ages, and the ingeniously engineered rice paddies. If you want to come to Madagascar and see it all... come with Tropical Birding!

Madagascar has over 100 endemic birds, and there are another couple of dozen shared with adjacent Indian Ocean Islands. So the grand endemic total is around 130 species. On this weeklong trip, we saw an astoundingly high proportion of these. We tallied 66 Malagasy endemic birds, of which two were heard-only. To this we added three breeding endemics and 25 regional endemics. So our grand endemic total was 93 species, just over two thirds of the total number! Although most people will prefer a longer trip, which gives chances at nearly all of the 130 endemics, plus a much larger range of other wildlife, a short tour like this one should be considered by people who don't have the time or money for a longer trip. You can see an astoundingly high proportion of Madagascar's endemic birds, plus a good selection of other wildlife, in a weeklong trip.



We had great views of both male and female Velvet Asities. This is a member of one of six endemic families, all of which we encountered during our short trip.

There are six families endemic to Madagascar, and we saw at least one representative of each one: Cuckoo-Roller, ground-rollers, mesites, asities, Malagasy warblers, and vangas.

One major tour highlight was seeing all five of the incredible ground-rollers, from the roadrunner-like Long-tailed of the spiny forest to the wonderful bamboo-dwelling Rufous-headed. Although this is rarely the case, on this tour, the vangas probably overshadowed even the wonderful ground-rollers. This was because we were able to visit a new site near Andasibe where we saw both Helmet and Bernier's Vangas, two species that were formerly only possible in the

remote northeast of Madagascar. In addition to these two marquee vangas, there was a strong supporting cast of other, including the range-restricted Red-shouldered, ant-thrush-like Crossley's, and huge Sickle-billed. As normal, the couas were also favorites. From the beautiful Blue Coua of the eastern rainforest to the elusive Verreaux's Coua of the southwest, we were looking for and at couas virtually every day. The bizarre mesites form a Malagasy endemic family, and we had superb views of the Subdesert Mesite.



A Running Coua running across the red sand of the southwestern spiny forest.

The asities form yet another small endemic family, and we saw two of its members: Velvet Asity and Common Sunbird-Asity. The Malagasy “warblers” or “greenbuls” were recently found to constitute an endemic family, the Bernieridae. Most of these birds are not colorful, but there is much to be enjoyed in their subtly different shapes and drastically different feeding strategies. Cuckoo-Roller forms not only its own family, but probably it's own ORDER. It took some work, but on our last morning at Andasibe, we finally had good flight views and even a perched scope view for some.

Madagascar Crested Ibis is one of the toughest birds on this tour, but this year we were treated to a bird on a nest, though only the top half of the bird was visible. We had excellent views of Madagascar Sparrowhawk and Madagascar Cuckoo-Hawk, two of the island's most elusive raptors. Coastal sites held good shorebirding as normal, and we spotted Greater Painted-snipe, Madagascar Plover, and the endemic subspecies of Three-banded Plover, which is likely to be split as another endemic. In the eastern rainforest, we enjoyed astoundingly good views of three tough rails: Madagascar Flufftail, Madagascar Rail, and Madagascar Wood-Rail. Owls and nightjars were well represented; we had great looks at Malagasy Scops-Owl, Madagascar Long-eared Owl, and Collared Nightjar. A Madagascar Pygmy-Kingfisher that shot into view and perched a few feet in front of the group was a real crowd pleaser. The bright orange coloration of this tiny forest-dwelling kingfisher almost seems to glow in the dark forest interior.



We enjoyed superb views of the rare Madagascar Sparrowhawk in the southwest.

The “mammaling” on this tour was also good. Overall, we recorded 12 mammals, 10 of which were lemurs, from the tiny mouse-lemurs up to Indri and Diademed Sifaka, the largest living species. We also had a good selection of herps – 16 reptiles and several frogs. The weather was sunny and excellent for butterflies, of which we identified 28 species.

TOP 5 TOUR SIGHTINGS AND EXPERIENCES

As voted by all the tour participants and Ken

1) Helmet Vanga – 17 VOTES. This huge and gorgeous vanga is among Madagascar's most sought-after birds. Until a couple years ago, it could only consistently be found in the remote northeast, which is difficult and expensive to reach. Then some of the skilled local guides in Andasibe found Helmet Vanga in a forest not far from Madagascar's most frequently visited natural site. Access was tricky initially, but has steadily improved due to the efforts of a newly formed community forest association. The walk to the forest is long, and can't be made by everyone. But on this trip, everyone was fit and keen, so I decided to try for the Helmet Vanga. Once we finally arrived in the forest, the vanga was easily found, as local guides had located a nest! Shortly after soaking in long views of the pair of Helmet Vangas, a large vanga flock came through. Scanning through it carefully, we found a female Bernier's Vanga, a major bonus!



2) **Short-legged Ground-Roller – 9 VOTES.** In Mantadia National Park, we had sensational views of a Short-legged Ground-Roller. Unlike the rest of the members of the family, this one spends nearly all of its time in the forest canopy and sub-canopy. But we were lucky to have a ground-roller drop out of the canopy and spend 15 minutes feeding on the forest floor right in front of us!



Long-tailed Ground-Roller – 9 VOTES. The roadrunner-like Long-tailed Ground-Roller is arguably the top bird of the spiny forest of the southwest. It looks and acts drastically different from the other members of the family, and is found in completely different habitat.



3) Spiny Forest – 7 VOTES. This is Madagascar’s most visually striking and distinctive environment. As you walk through this dry forest of ancient baobabs, candelabra-like euphorbias, and twisted octopus trees, you almost feel like you are on the set of some science fiction movie set in a planet far, far away from Earth!

4) **Henst's Goshawk – 5 VOTES.** We had both perched and flight views of this imposing raptor, one of Madagascar's top predators. The goshawk is one of Madagascar's hardest-to-find endemics, even on a three week-long trip!



Lesser Gray Bamboo Lemur – 5 VOTES. This wasn't the biggest lemur that we saw, but it was undoubtedly the cutest!

5) **Madagascar Flufftail – 4 VOTES.** Flufftails are always hard to see, so it was very satisfying when the whole group managed to get good looks of a skulking “fluffy” deep in a tangled thicket.

Broad-billed Roller – 4 VOTES. The Malagasy endemic breeding subspecies of this handsome bird has a broader bill than the nominate African birds: “Broader-billed Roller”?!

ITINERARY

November 17	Arrival in Antananarivo.
November 18	Flight from Tana to Tulear. Drive to Ifaty.
November 19	Ifaty to Tulear.
November 20	Tulear to Tana to Andasibe.
November 21	Iaroka Forest.
November 22	Mantadia NP.
November 23	Analamazoatra NP. Afternoon to Tana.
November 24	Morning at Lake Tsarasaotra. Departure from Tana.



While driving from Tana down the slope to Andasibe, we saw a couple of Hamerkops.
This odd bird belongs to its own family, which is endemic to the Afrotropics.

PHOTO GALLERY

Follows tour's chronology



The Red Fody is one of the most common endemic birds. It greets most visitors soon after their arrival in the capital city of Antananarivo.



Nightjars were a top priority for one of the participants, so it was good to have several good views of Madagascar Nightjar early on, including this one with a fuzzy chick.



Specialties of the spiny forest: Lafresnaye's Vanga (left), Thamnornis (right), an odd Malagasy greenbul, and Archbold's Newtonia (below), which is a member of the vanga family.





Standing's Day Gecko on a Fony Baobab – a classic spiny forest scene.



A Madagascar Swamp Warbler very much at home.



A couple unexpected sightings at Andasibe: Madagascar Green Pigeon (left) and *Boophis guibei* (right).



The endemic White-throated Rail showed very well in Mantadia NP.



A major coup on this trip was seeing Bernier's Vanga (left) in Iaroka Forest. We also had great views of the canopy-dwelling Common Sunbird-Asity (right).



Mascarene Martin is a hefty swallow that is an endemic breeder in the Malagasy region.



A Collared Nightjar peers out from its nest.



Point-blank views of Short-legged Ground-Roller (left) and Goodman's Mouse Lemur (right) were highlights.



Velvet Asity showing off its sensational green caruncle.



On our last morning we visited Lake Tsarasaotra, where we saw Malagasy Kingfisher and many waterbirds.

BIRD LIST

Taxonomy and nomenclature follow *The Clements Checklist of the Birds of the World v2018* (including updates through August 2018).

Anatidae (Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl)			
	White-faced Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	
E	Meller's Duck	<i>Anas melleri</i>	
	Red-billed Duck (Teal)	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>	
	Hottentot Teal	<i>Anas hottentota</i>	
Phasianidae (Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies)			
E	Madagascar Partridge	<i>Margaroperdix madagascarensis</i>	
Phoenicopteridae (Flamingos)			
	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	
Podicipedidae (Grebes)			
	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	
E	Madagascar (Little) Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus pelzelni</i>	
Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)			
I	Rock Pigeon (Dove)	<i>Columba livia</i>	
RE	Madagascar Turtle-Dove	<i>Streptopelia picturata picturata</i>	
Essp	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis aliena</i>	
RE	Madagascar Green-Pigeon	<i>Treron australis xenius/australis</i>	
Mesitornithidae (Mesites)			
E	Subdesert Mesite	<i>Monias benschi</i>	
Cuculidae (Cuckoos)			
E	Crested Coua	<i>Coua cristata</i>	
E	Verreaux's Coua	<i>Coua verreauxi</i>	
E	Blue Coua	<i>Coua caerulea</i>	
E	"Green-capped" Red-capped Coua	<i>Coua ruficeps olivaceiceps</i>	
E	Red-fronted Coua	<i>Coua reynaudii</i>	H
E	Running Coua	<i>Coua cursor</i>	
RE	Madagascar Coucal	<i>Centropus toulou toulou</i>	
BE	Madagascar (Lesser) Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus rochii</i>	
Caprimulgidae (Nightjars and allies)			
E	Collared Nightjar	<i>Gactornis enarratus</i>	
RE	Madagascar Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus m. madagascariensis</i>	
Apodidae (Swifts)			
RE	Malagasy Spinetail (Mad. Sp-Swift)	<i>Zoonavena grandidieri grandidieri</i>	
RE	Madagascar (Black) Swift	<i>Apus balstoni balstoni</i>	
Essp	African Palm-Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus gracilis</i>	
Sarothruridae (Flufftails)			
E	Madagascar Wood-Rail	<i>Canirallus kioloides</i>	
E	Madagascar Flufftail	<i>Sarothrura insularis</i>	
Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules, and Coots)			
E	Madagascar Rail	<i>Rallus madagascariensis</i>	
RE	White-throated Rail	<i>Dryolimnas c. cuvieri</i>	
	Eurasian Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus pyrrhorhoa</i>	

Recurvirostridae (Stilts and Avocets)		
	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
Charadriidae (Plovers and Lapwings)		
	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>
NBM	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>
E	Madagascar Plover	<i>Charadrius thoracicus</i>
Essp	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris bifrontatus</i>
Essp	White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus tenellus</i>
Rostratulidae (Painted-Snipes)		
	Greater Painted-snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>
Scolopacidae (Sandpipers and Allies)		
NBM	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
NBM	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>
NBM	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>
	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
NBM	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
Turnicidae (Buttonquail)		
E	Madagascar Buttonquail	<i>Turnix nigricollis</i>
Glareolidae (Pratincoles and Coursers)		
BE	Madagascar Pratincole	<i>Glareola ocularis</i>
Laridae (Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers)		
	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>
Scopidae (Hamerkop)		
	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>
Ardeidae (Hérons, Egrets, and Bitterns)		
Essp	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea madagascariensis</i>
	Great (White) Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
RE	Little (Dimorphic) Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta dimorpha</i>
	Black Heron (Egret)	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>
	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
	(Common) Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>
BE	Madagascar (Squacco) Pond-Heron	<i>Ardeola idae</i>
Essp	Striated (Green-backed) Heron	<i>Butorides striata rutenbergi</i>
	Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
Threskiornithidae (Ibises and Spoonbills)		
E	Madagascar (Crested) Ibis	<i>Lophotibis cristata</i>
Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles, and Kites)		
E	Madagascar Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides radiatus</i>
E	Madagascar Cuckoo-Hawk	<i>Aviceda madagascariensis</i>
E	Madagascar Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter madagascariensis</i>
E	Henst's Goshawk	<i>Accipiter henstii</i>
	Black (Yellow-billed) Kite	<i>Milvus migrans (parasitus)</i>
E	Madagascar Buzzard	<i>Buteo brachypterus</i>
Strigidae (Owls)		
E	Malagasy (Rainforest) Scops-Owl	<i>Otus rutilus</i>
E	Madagascar Long-eared Owl	<i>Asio madagascariensis</i>
Leptosomidae (Cuckoo-Roller)		
RE	(Madagascar) Cuckoo-Roller	<i>Leptosomus discolor</i>

Upupidae (Hoopoes)			
E	Madagascar Hoopoe	<i>Upupa marginata</i>	
Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)			
RE / Essp	Malagasy (Madagascar) Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis v. vintsioides</i>	
E	Madagascar Pygmy-Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis madagascariensis</i>	
Meropidae (Bee-eaters)			
	Madagascar Bee-eater	<i>Merops superciliosus</i>	
Coraciidae (Rollers)			
BEssp	Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus g. glaucurus</i>	
Brachypteraciidae (Ground-Rollers)			
E	Short-legged Ground-Roller	<i>Brachypteracias leptosomus</i>	
E	Scaly Ground-Roller	<i>Brachypteracias squamiger</i>	
E	Pitta-like Ground-Roller	<i>Atelornis pittoides</i>	
E	Rufous-headed Ground-Roller	<i>Atelornis crossleyi</i>	
E	Long-tailed Ground-Roller	<i>Uratelornis chimaera</i>	
Falconidae (Falcons and Caracaras)			
RE	Madagascar Kestrel	<i>Falco newtoni</i>	
Psittaculidae (Old World Parrots)			
RE	Greater Vasa-Parrot	<i>Coracopsis vasa v./drouhardi</i>	
RE	Lesser Vasa-Parrot	<i>Coracopsis nigra n./libs</i>	
E	Grey-headed Lovebird	<i>Agapornis canus</i>	
Philepittidae (Asities)			
E	Velvet Asity	<i>Philepitta castanea</i>	
E	(Common) Sunbird-Asity	<i>Neodrepanis coruscans</i>	
Vangidae (Vangas & Helmetshrikes)			
E	Archbold's Newtonia	<i>Newtonia archboldi</i>	
E	Common Newtonia	<i>Newtonia brunneicauda</i>	
E	Dark Newtonia	<i>Newtonia amphichroa</i>	
E	Tylas Vanga	<i>Tylas eduardi</i>	
E	Red-tailed Vanga	<i>Calicalicus madagascariensis</i>	
E	Red-shouldered Vanga	<i>Calicalicus rufocarpalis</i>	
E	Nuthatch Vanga	<i>Hypositta corallirostris</i>	
E	Chabert Vanga	<i>Leptopterus chabert</i>	
E	Crossley's Vanga (Babbler)	<i>Mystacornis crossleyi</i>	
RE	(Madagascar) Blue Vanga	<i>Cyanolanius m. madagascarinus</i>	
E	Hook-billed Vanga	<i>Vanga curvirostris</i>	
E	Ward's Flycatcher (Vanga)	<i>Pseudobias wardi</i>	
E	Sickle-billed Vanga	<i>Falcula</i> □ <i>ypical</i> □	
E	White-headed Vanga	<i>Artamella (Leptopterus) viridis</i>	
E	Bernier's Vanga	<i>Oriolia bernieri</i>	
E	Helmet Vanga	<i>Euryceros prevostii</i>	
E	Lafresnaye's Vanga	<i>Xenopirostris xenopirostris</i>	
Campephagidae (Cuckoo-shrikes)			
RE	Ashy (Madagascar) Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina cinerea cinerea</i>	
Dicruridae (Drongos)			
RE	Crested Drongo	<i>Dicrurus forficatus forficatus</i>	
Monarchidae (Monarch Flycatchers)			
RE	Madagascar Paradise-Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone</i> □ <i>ypica</i> □ <i>ypica</i>	

Corvidae (Crows, Jays, and Magpies)			
	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	
Alaudidae (Larks)			
E	Madagascar Lark	<i>Mirafr hova</i>	
Hirundinidae (Swallows)			
Essp	Plain (Brown-throated) Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola cowani</i>	
RE	Mascarene Martin	<i>Phedina borbonica</i>	
NBM	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	
Pycnonotidae (Bulbuls)			
RE	Madagascar Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes m. madagascariensis</i>	
Locustellidae (Grasshopper Warblers)			
E	Brown Emutail	<i>Bradypterus brunneus</i>	H
Acrocephalidae (Reed-Warblers and Allies)			
RE	Madagascar Brush-Warbler	<i>Nesillas t. □ypical</i>	
E	Subdesert Brush-Warbler	<i>Nesillas lantzi</i>	
E	Madagascar Swamp-Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus newtoni</i>	
Bernieridae (Malagasy Warblers)			
E	White-throated Oxylobes	<i>Oxylobes madagascariensis</i>	
E	Long-billed Bernieria (Greenbul)	<i>Bernieria madagascariensis</i>	
E	Thamnornis (Warbler)	<i>Thamnornis chloropetoides</i>	
E	Spectacled Tetraka (Greenbul)	<i>Xanthornix zosterops</i>	
E	Rand's Warbler	<i>Randia pseudozosterops</i>	
Cisticolidae (Cisticolas and Allies)			
E	Common Jery	<i>Neomixis tenella</i>	
E	Green Jery	<i>Neomixis viridis</i>	
E	Stripe-throated Jery	<i>Neomixis striatigula</i>	
RE	Madagascar Cisticola	<i>Cisticola cherina</i>	
Zosteropidae (White-eyes)			
RE	Madagascar White-eye	<i>Zosterops maderaspatanus</i>	
Muscicapidae (Old World Flycatchers)			
E	Madagascar Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus albospecularis</i>	
Essp	African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus sibilla</i>	
Sturnidae (Starlings)			
I	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	
E	Madagascar Starling	<i>Saroglossa aurata</i>	
Nectariniidae (Sunbirds and Spiderhunters)			
RE	Souimanga Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris souimanga s./apolis</i>	
RE	Madagascar (Green) Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris notatus notatus</i>	
Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)			
E	Madagascar Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flaviventris</i>	
Ploceidae (Weavers and Allies)			
E	Nelicourvi Weaver	<i>Ploceus nelicourvi</i>	
E	Sakalava Weaver	<i>Ploceus sakalava</i>	
RE	Red (Magagascar) Fody	<i>Foudia madagascariensis</i>	
E	Forest Fody	<i>Foudia omissa</i>	

Estrildidae (Waxbills and Allies)		
E	Madagascar Munia (Mannikin)	<i>Lonchura nana</i>

E - Endemic

Essp - Endemic subspecies

BE - Breeding endemic

RE - Regional endemic

I - Introduced

MAMMAL LIST

Taxonomy and nomenclature follow *Wildlife of Madagascar* (2016) by Ken Behrens and Keith Barnes.

Cheirogaleidae (Mouse & Dwarf Lemurs)		
E	Gray-brown Mouse Lemur	<i>Microcebus griseorufus</i>
E	Gray Mouse Lemur	<i>Microcebus murinus</i>
E	Goodman's Mouse Lemur	<i>Microcebus lehilahytsara</i>
E	Crossley's Dwarf Lemur	<i>Cheirogaleus crossleyi</i>
Lemuridae (True Lemurs)		
E	Eastern Lesser (Gray) Bamboo Lemur	<i>Hapalemur griseus</i>
E	Common Brown Lemur	<i>Eulemur fulvus</i>
E	Red-bellied Lemur	<i>Eulemur rubriventer</i>
E	Black-and-white Ruffed Lemur	<i>Varecia variegata</i>
Indridae (Woolly Lemurs, Sifakas & Indri)		
E	Diademed Sifaka	<i>Propithecus diadema</i>
E	Indri	<i>Indri Indri</i>
Tenrecidae (Tenrecs)		
E	Lesser Hedgehog Tenrec	<i>Echinops telfairi</i>
Muridae (Old World Rats & Mice)		
E	Lowland Red Forest Rat	<i>Nesomys audeberti</i>

E - Endemic

REPTILE LIST

Taxonomy and nomenclature follow *A Field Guide to the Amphibians and Reptiles of Madagascar: Third Edition* (2007) by Frank Glaw and Miguel Vences, with some updates based on subsequent scientific papers.

Chamaeleonidae		
E	Short-horned Chameleon	<i>Calumma brevicorne</i>
E	Perinet (Band-bellied) Chameleon	<i>Calumma gastrotaenia</i>
E	Parson's (Giant) Chameleon	<i>Calumma parsonii</i>

Opluridae		
E	Three-eyed Lizard	<i>Chalarodon madagascariensis</i>
Gekkonidae		
E	Mossy Leaf-tailed Gecko	<i>Uroplatus sikorae</i>
E	Sakalava Madagascar Velvet Gecko	<i>Blaesodactylus sakalava</i>
E	Standing's Day Gecko	<i>Phelsuma standingi</i>
E	Lined Day Gecko	<i>Phelsuma lineata</i>
Gerrhosauridae		
E	Malagasy Keeled Plated Lizard	<i>Tracheloptychus madagascarensis</i>
E	Peter's Keeled Plated Lizard	<i>Tracheloptychus petersi</i>
RE	Madagascar Plated Lizard	<i>Zonosaurus madagascariensis</i>
E	Bronze Plated Lizard	<i>Zonosaurus aeneus</i>
Scincidae		
E	Gravenhorst's Skink	<i>Trachylepis gravenhorstii</i>
E	Elegant Skink	<i>Trachylepis elegans</i>
Colubridae		
E	Striped Madagascar Garter Snake	<i>Thamnosophis lateralis</i>
E	Mahafaly Sand Snake	<i>Mimophis mahfalensis</i>

E - Endemic

RE - Regional Endemic

AMPHIBIAN LIST

Taxonomy and nomenclature follow *A Field Guide to the Amphibians and Reptiles of Madagascar: Third Edition (2007)* by Frank Glaw and Miguel Vences, with some updates based on subsequent scientific papers.

Dicroglossidae			
	Mascarene Ridged Frog	<i>Ptychadena mascareniensis</i>	H
Microhylidae			
E	Stump-toed Frog	<i>Stumpffia sp.</i>	H
E	Mahanoro Tree-hole Frog	<i>Plethodontohyla notosticta</i>	
Mantellidae			
E	Madagascar Jumping Frog	<i>Aglyptodactylus madagascariensis</i>	
E		<i>Boophis guibei</i>	
E		<i>Guibemantis liber</i>	
E	Boulenger's Bridge Frog	<i>Gephyromantis boulengeri</i>	H
E	Mocquard's Madagascar Frog	<i>Mantidactylus mocquardi</i>	
E	Duméril's Madagascar Frog	<i>Mantidactylus lugubris</i>	
E	Baron's Mantella	<i>Mantella baroni</i>	

E - Endemic

H - Heard-only

BUTTERFLY LIST

Papilionidae			
E	Cream-lined Swallowtail	<i>Papilio delalandei</i>	
E	Banded Blue Swallowtail	<i>Papilio oribazus</i>	
E	Madagascar Malachite Swallowtail	<i>Graphium cyrnus</i>	
E	Madagascar Giant Swallowtail	<i>Pharmacophagus antenor</i>	
Pieridae			
	Malagasy Grass Yellow	<i>Eurema floricola floricola</i>	
RE	Madagascar Orange Tip	<i>Colotis evanthe</i>	
E	Madagascar Purple Tip	<i>Colotis zoe</i>	
E	Madagascar Caper White	<i>Belenois helcida</i>	
E	Madagascar Dotted Border	<i>Mylothris phileris</i>	
Essp	Albatross White	<i>Appias sabina confusa</i>	
Essp	Zebra White	<i>Pinacopteryx eriphia mabillei</i>	
Lycanidae			
	Playboy sp.	<i>Deudorix</i> sp.	
Rionidae			
E	Madagascar Metalmark	<i>Saribia</i> sp.	G
Nymphalidae			
	African Monarch	<i>Danaus chrysippus aegyptius</i>	
E	Madagascar Satyr	<i>Strabena</i> sp.	
RE	Indian Ocean Satyr	<i>Heteropsis</i> sp.	
E	Banded Commodore	<i>Precis andremiaja</i>	
RE	Madagascar Brown Pansy	<i>Junonia goudotii</i>	
RE	Brilliant Blue	<i>Junonia rhadama</i>	
	Clouded Mother-of-Pearl	<i>Protogoniomorpha anacardii duprei</i>	
	Sailer sp.	<i>Neptis</i> sp.	
E	Madagascar Forest Glade Nymph	<i>Aterica rabena</i>	
	Polka Dot	<i>Pardopsis punctatissima</i>	
E		<i>Acraea zitja</i>	
E		<i>Acraea ranavalona</i>	
E		<i>Acraea turna</i>	
E	Madagascar Leopard	<i>Phalanta madagascariensis</i>	
	Common Leopard	<i>Phalanta phalantha aethiopica</i>	

E - Endemic

RE - Regional Endemic

Essp - Endemic subspecies

G - Guide-only

OTHER INVERTEBRATE LIST

	Giant African Land Snail	<i>Lissachatina fulica</i>
	Golden Orb-web Spider	<i>Nephila</i> sp.
E	Giant Pill Millipedes	<i>Zoosphaerium / Sphaeromimus</i>
E	Giraffe-necked Weevil	<i>Trachelophorus giraffa</i>
E	Scorpion	<i>Opisthacanthus</i> sp.
E	Madagascar Hissing Cochroach	<i>Gromphadorhina portentosa</i>
	"Kung Fu" Cricket	<i>Oncodopus</i> sp.

E - Endemic



It doesn't rank as a major target for most visiting birders, but the Pied Crow is quite a handsome bird, and like all corvids, has lots of intelligence and character.