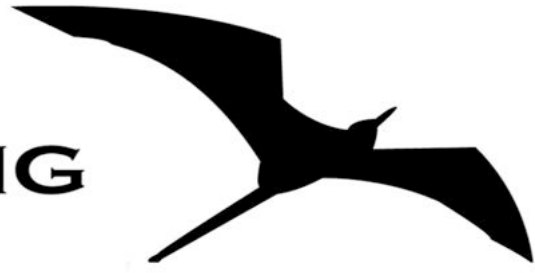


TROPICAL BIRDING



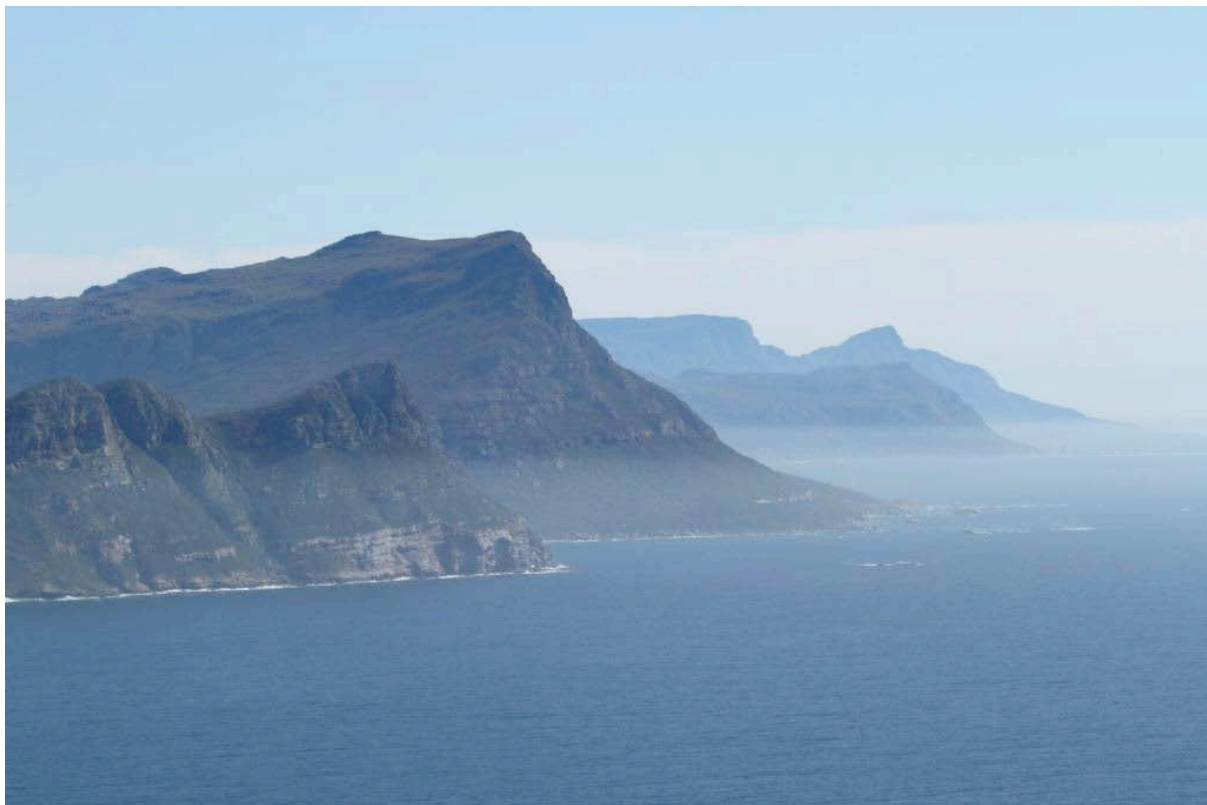
South Africa: Fairest Cape to Kruger

23rd September – 9th October 2011

SET DEPARTURE TOUR

TOUR LEADERS: KEN BEHRENS & SCOTT WATSON

Report by **Scott Watson**. Photos by **Scott Watson**.



Mist rises off False Bay onto the rugged coast of Cape Peninsula (Scott Watson)

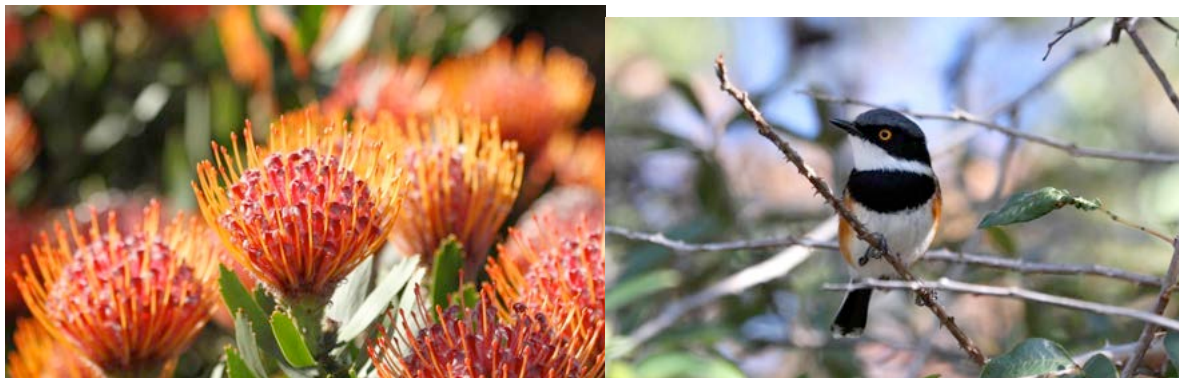
Few countries in the world are able to reveal stunning landscapes, diverse habitats, large numbers of both birds and mammals, while at the same time travelling in comfort, and eating great food. There was no Drakensberg extension portion on this tour so our tally of an impressive 431 species of birds and an amazing 57 species of mammals means everyone involved was left smiling. It is easy to smile with tour highlights such as; up close and personal moments with African Penguins, being 30 miles out at sea

amongst thousands of Albatross and Petrels, getting to know the Chacma Baboon, the quiche-muffin-Turaco combination in Wilderness, heart pounding moments with Red-chested Flufftail, Aardwolf at night in the Karoo, storm birding in Wakkerstrom, and seeing the big 5 including two Leopards within our first couple hours in Kruger NP.

This trip covers lots of ground in order to find most of South Africa's endemic birds while at the same time exploring dramatically changing habitats. We systematically moved through these habitats picking up the changing of the species along the way. Starting in the botanically ultra-diverse Fynbos of the Cape, we then moved east into moist Afro-tropical forests, the southernmost of its kind in Africa. Next a dramatic change occurs as you move north away from the coast through the door of Swartberg pass and into the semi-desert of the Karoo. Flying to Johannesburg we visit two key habitats in the eastern portion of the country. First the endemic-rich Highveld grassland around Wakkerstrom, second the famous bushveld of Kruger National Park where Elephants and termite mounds become part of the landscape. Throw a pelagic trip in the mix and we have covered it all. All of these changes are designed so that we not only get the endemics of South Africa but also a good cross-section of the birdlife this country has to offer. On top of that, mammals seemed to be particularity friendly on this tour from the wide array of antelope to the incredible big cats.

September 23 – Arrival Day and Kirstenbosch

In this tour the United States was well represented from coast to coast with participants from California, Texas, and New York. It was a clash of accents but we all survived our introductions. With people arriving in the mid-afternoon we needed to focus our efforts on one location, Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden.



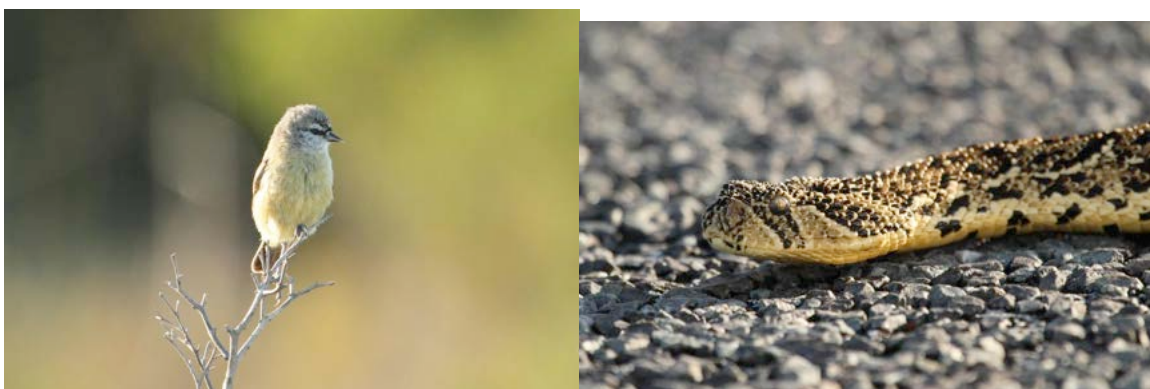
Flowering Proteas, and the inquisitive Cape Batis at Kistenbosh (Scott Watson)

Being the first time to Africa for each participant, the new birds and new bird families came fast and furious upon arrival at the garden. Here we found some endemics right off the bat including, **Cape Francolin, Hartlaub's Gull, Cape Bulbul, Karoo Prinia, Cape Batis, Southern Boubou, Southern Double-collared Sunbird, Cape White-eye, Cape Canary, and Forest Canary.** This is surely one of the most beautiful gardens in the world, with Table Mountain looming overhead, an incredible view of Cape Town,

and plants bursting with flower. The usual roosting **Spotted Eagle-Owl** nicely stayed put for us but, before we knew it our attention turned to the sky as 2 endemic **Forest Buzzards** soared overhead in the evening light, while a **Black Saw-wing** sneakily tried to fly by. The biggest surprise of the afternoon was surely finding a **Lemon Dove** simply strutting across the trail in front of us, then quickly melding back into the forest. After a bit of a search we eventually re-found this shy ground dwelling dove trying hard to keep out of sight.

September 24 – West Coast

We had an early start this morning as we headed north from Cape Town and up the West Coast. The first order of business was a quick visit to the Koeberg Nature Reserve where we sifted through the **Cape Grassbirds**, **Long-billed Crombecs**, and **White-backed Mousebirds** in the early morning light to find our main target, **Cape Pendulin-Tit**. This diminutive near endemic can prove tricky to find, but we were all thrilled when it perched up nicely and flew around the group for 5 minutes of Penduline-Tit action. Next up was a stake out for the endemic **Cape Clapper Lark**. Soon after pulling over on the side of the road we heard it, and then saw it distantly in display mode. Suddenly a second lark called from the other side of the road, but much closer. Further north we drove to our first turn off, and the start of the Darling Wildflower Route at Mud River Road. Straight away we had our first looks at a mind blowing bird, and one of my favorites, the **Bokmakierie**. Our efforts in finding Southern Black Korhaan were fruitless so we moved on. Shortly after watching a pair of **Banded Martins** near their nest hole, Kens incredible ears picked up **Klaas's Cuckoo** in the distance. It responded incredibly well to playback landing low in a close tree in good light. Through the scope everyone could watch the minute detail of each magnificently green feather moving in the morning light. This bird and birding moment was later tallied to be a favorite of the entire tour. Further along the route we made another short stop at a wildflower reserve yielding the target **Cloud Cisticola** and our first **Cape Longclaw**, also South Africa's national bird, the impressive **Blue Crane** in neighboring fields.



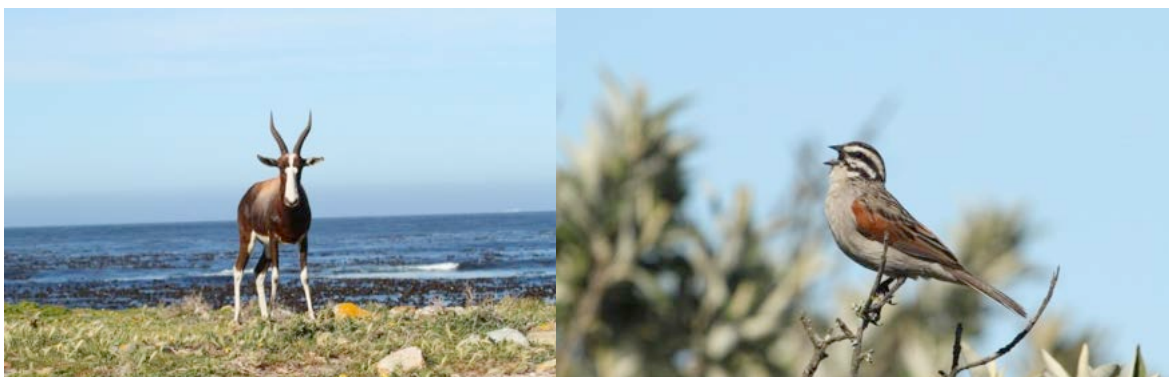
The cute Cape Pendulin-Tit and the cuter Puff Adder (Scott Watson)

After lunch our northbound journey continued to the Velddrif saltworks to pick up the local **Chestnut-banded Plover**. This bird took some effort to find among the common

White-fronted and **Common Ringed Plovers**, and scanning between the legs of the numerous **Lesser** and **Greater Flamingos**. Near Patemoster we had little trouble finding **Sickle-winged** and **Anteating Chats**, but our Lark quarry eluded us. A few hundred meters away we tried again and success! We watched and heard the amazing flight display of the endemic **Cape Long-billed Lark** which then decided to land on a post beside the road. Slowly but surely every participant was starting to like larks. Finally, we turned back heading south, but through West Coast National Park. The stunning views and flowering Strandveld habitat make this park famous. We spent some time at the bird hide to scan the flats for shorebirds with great success; **Wood, Marsh,** and **Curlew Sandpipers, Common Greenshank, Little Stint, Whimbrel, Pied Avocet,** and a nice **Bar-tailed Godwit**. Driving further into the park the light was beginning to fade yet one target was still eluding us the entire day, the Korhaan. We first stopped as a large **Puff Adder** was soaking in some final rays on the road, but a distinctive call proved to be a surprise **Karoo Lark** close by. Once found the target **Southern Black Korhaan** started to call and everyone had great scope views of this endemic bustard. Luckily we stopped for the snake. The last bird of the day was a real beauty, an adult **Black Harrier**. This was a long day, a long drive back, and an even longer list of birds.

September 25 – Cape Peninsula

For the second day in a row the scheduled pelagic trip was cancelled due to rough seas. So a quick shift in plans and we decided to bird the Cape Peninsula. This day has some of the most scenically amazing drives one could ask for and the weather co-operated. The first stop at Kommetjie was surprisingly devoid of cormorants but we did pick up **African Black Oystercatcher, Common,** and **Swift Terns**. We were soon stopped by a local near the beach who thought we were South African military with our scopes and disciplined line formation. Either we are a tough looking group of birders, or this was a horrible day for the reputation of South Africa's ground forces. Either way I was proud. We made a quick stop to check for mammals and found 4 **Grey Rhebok** foraging in the Fynbos. Sergeant Ken then lead us to the Cape of Good Hope for a little sea watching session, but not before an **Ostrich** family, a **Bontebok**, and 2 **Spotted Thick-Knees** got in our way. At the point we found many **White-chinned Petrels, Cape Gannets,** and a few **Shy Albatross**. A climb up to the Cape Point lighthouse found our target endemic **Cape Siskin** flitting amongst the endemic **Black Girdled Lizards**.



Bontebok and Cape Bunting at the Cape of Good Hope (Scott Watson)

The spectacular drive along the coast towards Simon's Town is truly remarkable, and we were able to find the endemic **Bank Cormorants** which nest on an offshore rock. At this same stop every participant got great views of their lifer Chacma Baboon. This same baboon was also able to open our van door and steal my backpack looking for food!! Since I had no food inside it eventually left the bag alone, and luckily I got everything back it rummaged through (including my camera equipment). This is a clear example of why humans should not feed wild animals, they become confident. Before you know it all those well fed ducks at your local park pond will be breaking into houses and stealing cars. Once organized again and everyone ticked off baboon, we made our way to Simon's Town for a well deserved lunch, but first we checked out the famous **African Penguins** at Boulder's Beach. These laidback penguins are not very afraid of people, and allow close observation. Unfortunately these penguins are in trouble due to severely depleted pelagic fish stocks. Our final stop for the day was the Strandfontein Sewage Works, which preserves some really nice marsh habitat. On the entrance road we picked up **Zitting Cisticola, African Reed Warbler, Lesser Swamp-Warbler, Little Rush-Warbler** and **Burchell's Coucal**. Into the marsh proper we got to grips with many of the regular waterfowl species, and we had no problem finding our main targets; **Southern Pochard, Maccoa Duck, and Hottentot Teal**.



Chacma Baboon with my bag (Tom Dulski) and African Penguin (Scott Watson)

September 26 – Pelagic trip/Paarl & Sir Lowry's Pass

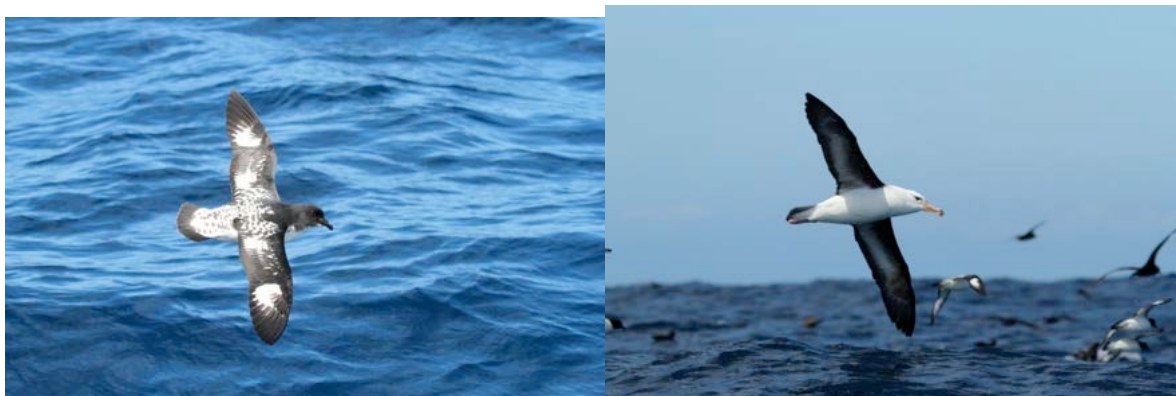
Third time's a charm! The pelagic was a go today and we were all eager to get onboard. The group split into 2 as three came onboard and one went to Paarl. Once boarded our first bird was a young **African Penguin** happily swimming in the harbor. False Bay was incredibly calm, and the open water was not too bad this day. In fact the wind was too gentle, making it tough pelagic birding as many birds were not flying. Our first **White-chinned Petrels** and **Shy Albatross** were sitting on the water. So the tactic of finding an active trawler or long-liner was made much more urgent. Luckily we were in a small very fast boat enabling us to travel 30 miles offshore to find 2 active long-liners. If we had not had this fast boat the day could have gone bird-less in the low winds. Thankfully

hundreds of birds were circling the boats in the distance and the anticipation grew in the group as we got closer.



Long-liner with seabird following & the elegant Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross (Scott Watson)

Just before we got to the boats an **Antarctic Tern** flew by. We followed these boats for 3 hours seeing great numbers of **Shy Albatross, Black-browed Albatross, Pintado Petrel, White-chinned Petrel, and Wilson's Storm-Petrel**. We were also able to pick out both **Indian** and **Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross, Subantarctic Skua, both Northern & Southern Giant Petrels, Sooty Shearwater, and Great Shearwater**. Unfortunately, as time went on the waves picked up and eventually got the better of 2 participants in our group. On behalf of everyone on the boat would like to give a special thank you to both Tom and Deborah. Their carefully placed chum slicks on either side of the boat was the single reason our best bird of the day showed any interest in the boat, an awesome **Black-bellied Storm-Petrel!** We watched the interesting behavior of this storm-petrel as it appears to hit the waves with its breast, skipping off them like a flat rock. After a long day on the water we were back in the harbor, with **Bank** and **Crowned Cormorants** on the way in, not to mention a quick view of a **Bryde's Whale**.



Pintado Petrel & Black-browed Albatross (Scott Watson)

Ken and tour participant Kevin spent the day picking up target birds in Paarl and Sir Lowry's Pass. On the Paarl Mountain Reserve the main target was the tough endemic **Protea Seedeater**. Incredibly they found the bird within the first 10 minutes of searching with in your face views, so off to Sir Lowry's pass to find the endemic **Cape**

Rockjumper, and **Victorin's Warbler**. Again it took no time at all to find both of these traditionally tricky birds. With a few hours of daylight left we weren't about to finish the day of birding, and those who wanted made the excursion back to Kirstenbosch for anything new. It was fairly quiet but **Sweet Waxbill** and **Black Sparrowhawk** were new additions, and it is always nice to see the endemic **Cape Sugarbirds** and **Orange-breasted Sunbirds** yet again.

September 27 – Rooi Els to De Hoop

Another early start today as we plan to cover some ground heading east towards De Hoop Nature Reserve, with lots of birds to get on the way. Our first stop was the extra rocky hillsides of Gordon's Bay which, after a little effort, gave us two great birds. First was **Victorin's Warbler**. We heard the bird far down the slope in a thickly vegetated ravine, but with a little enticing the warbler slowly but surely climbed the hill to within feet of us, singing loudly. Once we soaked this bird in, a loud call up the cliff gave away a **Ground Woodpecker** sitting on a rocky ledge like a gargoyle. This must be one of the coolest looking and behaving woodpeckers in the world, a great bird all around. With a final look at a couple of **Klipspringers**, we were off for our next target further along the coast at Rooi Els. On arrival to this picturesque coastal village nestled on the side of a Fynbos laden hillside we had our first good looks at **Cape Gray Mongoose** sneaking around. It took a bit of effort but we finally found our quarry, the endemic **Cape Rockjumper**. We found a pair of these intriguing, taxonomic marvels jumping amongst the rocks close to the trail. Both an endemic species and an endemic family to South Africa it was a clear highlight which everyone appreciated.



Klipspringer keeping a careful watch & the rugged coast of Hermanus. (Scott Watson)

Pushing on our next stop at Kleinmond was to find Hottentot Buttonquail but were only able to flush **Common Quail**, which was still a lifer for most. Our lunch stop at Hermanus gave way to views of 2 **Southern Right Whales**, a mother and calf. Whale sightings here have made this town famous as they are often found very close to shore. Driving east we finally made it to the true Overberg, the breadbasket of the Cape. An unnamed dirt road running to the north of De Hoop was our birding spot for the afternoon. Right off the bat we heard and then saw **Agulhas Long-billed Lark** in display mode, noting the differences from Cape Long-billed. **Red-capped Larks**, **Thick-**

billed Larks, Capped Wheatears, and African Pipits were in really good numbers as we flushed them from the roadside.



Agulas Long-billed Lark & Blue Crane just north of De Hoop (Scott Watson)

Further along Ken spotted what looked to be a severely inflated Turkey in an adjacent field. Careful observation of a nearby uninterested female revealed that it was a male **Stanley's Bustard** in full mating display mode. This huge bird can puff itself up to almost bursting proportions, but he must have felt deflated as the female simply walked away. Next up were 2 **Karoo Bustards** feeding in an agro field next to the road, and a little further on was everyone's favorite, **Secretarybird**. We watched as this bird hunted in the tall grass. This cool species was a major target for everyone with smiles all around. Our lodging was north of the park near Buffeljags River where we all enjoyed a cool beer and some very tasty Bobotie for dinner.

September 28 - De Hoop to Wilderness

An early start had us on our way to De Hoop Reserve. On route through the early morning mist a **Spotted Eagle-Owl** was seen finishing up after a nights hunting. The nearby **Scrub Hare** best be on the lookout. The first main target this morning just outside of the park was another endemic, **Agulhas Clapper Lark**. After hearing its distinctive flight display we were on the chase through the favored Restio habitat. Unless in flight display mode the reed like habitat makes it incredibly hard to see otherwise. We were eventually treated to great looks at this species "clapping" in mid-air.



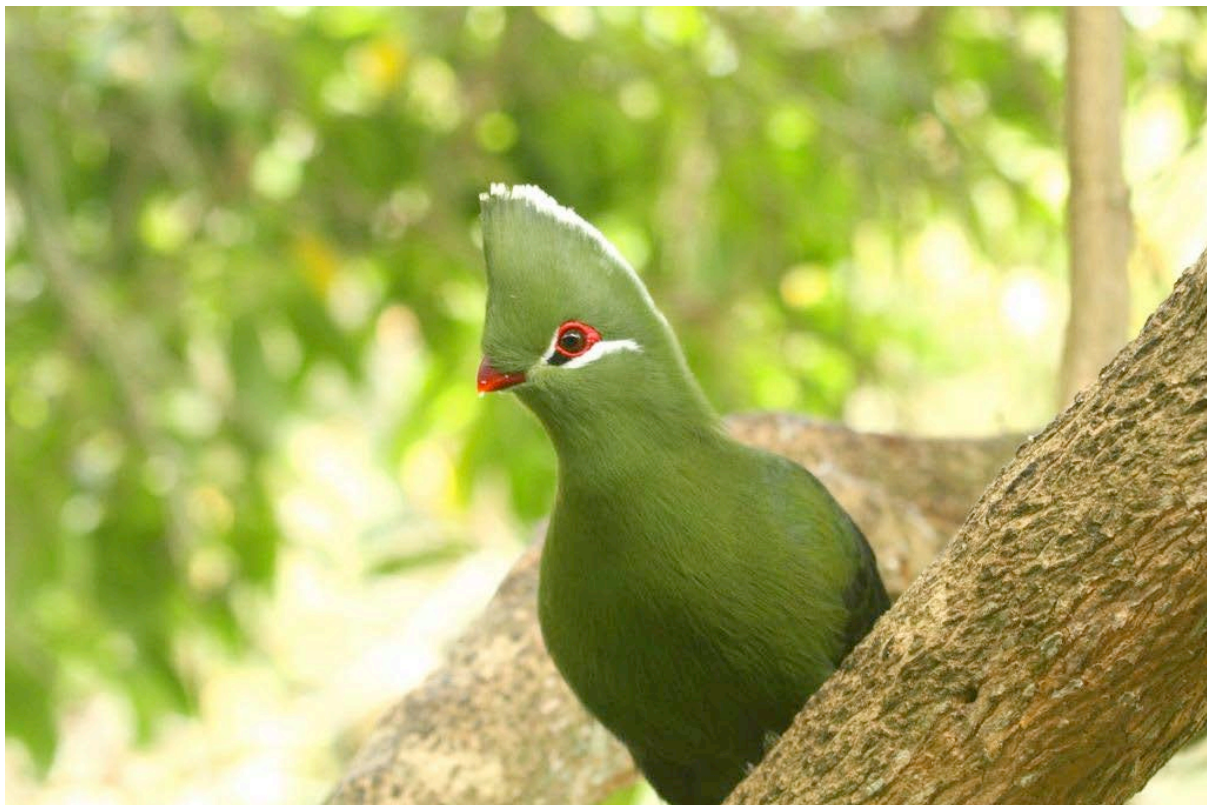
Spotted Eagle-Owl stare down & on the hunt for Agulhas Clapper Lark (Scott Watson)

Our next stop was at the, now burnt and abandoned Buchu Bush Camp. Here we picked up our target pair of **Southern Tchagra**, but the real treat was an active and responsive **Knysna Woodpecker**! What a bonus! This high priority, endemic target bird was unexpected here and a great relief for any guide. This being said the participants were quick to list off the other tough birds we still need, alas the pressure mounted once again. I will always remember those 1.5 minutes of pressure free, satisfied birding. Having seen all the birds we entered into De Hoop now only for a new mammal, **Cape Mountain Zebra**, which was easy to find amidst the incredible views of the dunes, fynbos, and coastline. We needed to hit the road east to Wilderness, but not before finding a few **Cape Vultures** just outside of the reserve, and an **African Hoopoe**. While crossing the river via a hand-drawn car ferry at Malgas, Ken heard and called in the Hoopoe from the car, while still in the middle of the river! The bird flew across the river, right by the vehicle. At this point Ken was just showing off. Pushing on we made it to Wilderness, but not before a stop close by to try for **Knysna Warbler**. We heard at least 2 different birds, and after at least an hour with the bird 4 feet away from our faces it gave reasonable views. It is unfortunate that this species prefers to live in the thickest vegetation ever known, and crawls around it like a scared mouse. In fact it should be considered a species of mouse, then guides everywhere wouldn't have to go through the frustration of finding and getting good views of this species, what with its beautiful shades of brown. A stop at a nearby river was home to a beautiful **Half-collared Kingfisher**, which gave scope views. Arriving at Kingfisher House in Wilderness, we were warmly greeted and welcomed by the lodge owners and the resident **Knysna Turacos** which come in to the feeders here. A **Blue-mantled Flycatcher** from the balcony was the final bird of another great day.

September 29th – Wilderness

Today our goal was to find a bunch of forest specialties so we started early at Half-collared Kingfisher trail. The forest was fairly active at the start with **Tambourine Dove**, **Black-backed Puffback**, **Green-backed Cameroptera**, **White-starred Robin**, **Chorister Robin-Chat**, **Grey Sunbird**, and **Greater Double-collared Sunbird**. This trail leads down to a river passing through some very lush forest. At the river a **Scaly-throated Honeyguide** was heard. It responded giving flight views as it crossed the

river above us a couple of times. Next up was a showstopper, the incredible **Narina Trogon** showing off its vivid green back and bright red underside standing out amongst the dark green foliage. Breakfast was calling, and Sue's breakfast at Kingfisher House is world famous. Not only do birders get to eat the enormous amount of great food (including her Quiche, voted best food of the entire trip) but the feeders here attract a whole host of birds. While stuffing our faces we saw; **Red-necked Francolin, Knysna Turaco, Fork-tailed Drongo, Terrestrial Brownbul, Fiscal Flycatcher, Southern Gray-headed Sparrow, Cape Weaver, Swee Waxbill, Streaky-headed Seedeater, and Forest Canary**. The lodge is also surrounded by nice forest and we found **Olive Bush-Shrike, Amethyst Sunbird, and Olive Woodpecker**, all while eating freshly baked chocolate-chip muffins.



Knysna Turaco, an endemic bird easily seen while eating gourmet quiche (Scott Watson)

Marsh birds are what we needed, so the marsh is where we headed. Small lakes near the town are great places to find a wide range of species, and there are a few bird hides to choose from. After a stop first for **Brown-hooded Kingfisher** we tried our luck at Malachite Hide. Within minutes we found **African Rail**, and **Black Crake**. On the lake we found a multitude of ducks including **White-backed Duck**. Next was to try for another rail. Ken played the call, and it responded, **Red-chested Flufftail**. Hearing a Flufftail is one thing, but seeing one separates the birders from normal people. On our hands and knees we strained to find this thing which must only be 3 feet away in the thick reeds. With Ken still trying I observed the group after the first few minutes of the bird toying with us. Facial expressions first show excitement of the bird being close, then worry that it has not been seen within the first 2 minutes, After 10 it leads to

frustration, then to anger, then to hate towards Flufftails as a genus. After 25 minutes it looks as though this may be the last birding trip these people ever do, but at minute 26 some movement at the edge of the trail got every ones attention. The bird quickly poked its head out then ran back in for cover. At minute 26.5 no one was satisfied with the views and the anger and hate boiled once again. Ken, calm as ever, tried again and then BOOM, there it was standing in plain sight for a second, then crossed the trail giving everyone great looks!! Cheers rang out amongst us, and everyone was ecstatic! Worried about the emotional stability of the group for any other tough target birds, I warned Ken of my observations. For the rest of the tour all skulking birds were seen in under 5 minutes.



Brown-hooded Kingfisher & a running Red-chested Flufftail (Scott Watson)

In the afternoon we visited another part of the park known as Big Tree, which is indeed home to a huge 800+ year old Outeniqua Yellowwood. The forest here was fairly quiet this afternoon, but we did pick out new birds; **Yellow-throated Woodland-Warbler**, and **Black-bellied Starling**. At night we tried for **African Wood Owl**, but remained on the heard list.

September 30th – Wilderness to Karoo

Today we must leave wilderness behind us and head for the Karoo, but not before another quick stop in the forest, as it will be the last good forest of the tour. Our efforts were rewarded with awesome views of a **Red-chested Cuckoo** singing its heart out on an open branch. One more incredible breakfast, and a multitude of muffins, and we were on the road again. Upon reaching Swartberg pass we tried first for **Protea Canary**, a rare endemic. Striking out on multiple tries Ken heard one while birding near the top of the pass. We all scrambled up the slope and had good views of one as it was gathering nest material! Back down on the road, the ever-watchful Tom, found a small covey of **Grey-winged Francolin**, our first for the trip. They eventually responded very well to playback and gave probably the best francolin views you could ask for (at least of the *Scleroptila* francolins), calling 10 feet from your face in perfect light! The south side of the pass gives some great views, but as we started descending the north side we were all treated to some incredible rock formations, and deep canyons, a truly bewildering place you have to see to believe.



Birding Swartberg pass, shortly after seeing Grey-winged Francolin (Scott Watson)

After a picnic lunch deep in a canyon we emerged into a much more flat and dry environment. This new habitat was home to some new birds so we followed suit. Our first stop just north of the pass was an acacia thicket where we found; **Cardinal Woodpecker, Chestnut-vented Tit-Babbler, Pririt Batis, White-throated Canary,** and a personal favorite, **Fairy Flycatcher**. Close by a **Pale Chanting Goshawk** was feeding on top of a telephone pole and was our first for the trip, but we would see multiple more this afternoon.



Scenic lunch stop in Swartberg Pass & majestic Pale Chanting Goshawk (Scott Watson)

Getting **Chat Flycatcher** on route we made it to the main N12 to make our northern run to Karoo NP. This long stretch is actually very birdy and we got to grips with our first **Greater Kestrel, Namaqua Warbler, Karoo Long-billed Lark, and Karoo Chats**. Finally making it to the park entrance and finding **Rufous-eared Warbler** while getting our entrance ticket we made our way in. It was now late in the day so fading the light was hitting everything just perfect in this incredible environment. **Kudu** were everywhere, and we even saw 2 **Namaqua Sandgrouse** flying right over the vehicle, first recognized by their distinctive call. Finally at the camp we relaxed, had a great dinner after this long driving day, but eager for the morning.

October 1st – Karoo National Park

An early and cool start to the day had us birding around the campsites where we found our two targets; **African Red-eyed Bulbul** (a near endemic), and the endemic **Karoo Thrush**. After breakfast we started of the day driving the big loop of Klipspringer Pass. Birding started off slow, but then picked up with sightings of **Short-toed Rock Thrush, Mountain Wheatear, Sickle-winged Chat, Karoo Chat, and Ant-eating Chat**. Further up the pass we picked out a Layard's Tit-Babbler, but then a surprise pair of endemic **African Rock Pipits** right beside the road!! This species can be tricky, and now that you have to stay in the vehicle (lions have now been introduced) it was a nice treat to get this bird from the car. Quickly following suit was **Black-throated Canary** as well as the much more striking **Black-headed Canary**. As **Gemsbok** and **Grey Rhebok** watched us we were watching a **Sabota Lark** singing from the top of a nearby snag. The birds continued to come into the day. At one point we found what looked like to be large black patches of vegetation, but was actually a massive hatch of grasshoppers. These were then visited by **Grey-backed Sparrowlarks** and **Lark-like Buntings**. Ever the sharp eye Ken noticed the distinctive flight of the **Black-eared Sparrowlark** high over head. This striking endemic can prove tough at times so it was a welcome find. Then possibly the best bird moment of the day was a **Namaqua Sandgrouse** simply sitting in the middle of the road for everyone to see, quickly rivaled by two **Black Harriers** exchanging food in mid-air!



Namaqua Sandgrouse & Gemsbok (Southern Oryx) in Karoo NP (Scott Watson)

Finally night came and we were all looking forward to our first real night drive of the tour. Only 1 km from camp we found our first target **African Wild Cat!** Not 5 minutes later the highlight mammal of the night appeared in the spotlight, an incredible **Aardwolf!** This is one of the coolest looking animals on this planet. This out of proportion beast is related to Hyenas, yet is insectivorous, feeding mainly on termites. Aardwolf means “earth wolf” in Afrikaans. Now just 10 minutes into the night drive we had no idea what to expect next, and everyone was on the edge of their seats. We spotlighted the usual **Ostrich, Steenbok, Springbok,** and **Kudu** along the way. Another new mammal came in the form of a **Hairy-footed Gerbil** scurrying across the road in front of us, not far ahead was our first Skaapsteker snake. Birds were not entirely absent either, and we eventually found a couple target **Rufous-cheeked Nightjars** flying in the spotlight. This was an extremely productive night drive, and a great end to an awesome day in the Karoo, with lots of great birds and incredible mammals.



Zebra in the wildflowers & African Wild Cat at night (Scott Watson)

October 2nd – Karoo to Johannesburg

This day is a long travel day, but that doesn't mean we stop birding. With plenty of raptors around eyes must always be scanning. We also stopped at a couple of locations. At one we found a very active group of **Spike-heeled Larks** which eventually came right up to the vehicle. **White-necked Ravens** were always present, as is the spectacular scenery all the way back to Cape Town. We then boarded our now delayed evening flight to Johannesburg. Bring on the east!

October 3rd – Johannesburg to Wakkerstroom

It was dark when we arrived in Johannesburg yesterday, so new birds started just leaving our hotel to get to Wakkerstroom. In a residential neighborhood a **Red-throated Wryneck** was heard calling. Without scaring the residents we quickly found the bird high in a tree in a residential backyard. Just outside of the city we found our first **Long-tailed Widowbird** seemingly bouncing in the air. Further along a grass fire attracted some swallows, and among them was a **South African Cliff Swallow**. Now into some nice habitat we had incredible views of the endemic **Eastern Clapper Lark** at the side of the road while nearby **Red-winged Francolins** foraged.



Eastern Clapper Lark an endemic found near Wakkerstroom (Scott Watson)

Finally near the town of Wakkerstroom we stopped at the nearby lake and wetland for a scan. This was a great idea as it was pumping with new species. Among the many herons was our first **Squacco Heron**, although our eyes quickly shifted to a pair of **Cape Clawless Otters** fishing midday! One even came completely out of the water for everyone to see, and a new mammal for the tour. Later we had a flyby **African Harrier-hawk**, and shortly after, an **African Wattled Lapwing**, cruising right over our heads. Looking down again two **Grey Crowned Cranes** were found feeding in a distant field, while at the same time a **Little Bittern** and an **African Rail** were found in the marsh, both with scope views! The road and bridge made the perfect elevated vantage point to see everything here. After a great lunch at a local café with the best pumpkin soup we were off again to find some endemics in this unique Highveld habitat. These high elevation grasslands with old ranching practices feel like one is going back in time. If you were to go back 200 years it probably looked much the same now as it did then. Unfortunately we noticed some serious clouds were moving in, after seeing the striking **Buff-streaked Chat** and **Black-winged Plover**. Before we knew it we were in the middle of a violent thunderstorm which included some serious hail, making birding difficult for the rest of the day. A well deserved nights rest was due for another long day.

October 4th – Wakkerstroom

Now equipped with our local guide Lucky we were off to find some endemics. With the rain subsided we started where we finished off yesterday looking for pipits. We found many **African Pipits**, **Eastern Long-billed Larks**, and **Cape Longclaws** initially, but we finally heard and then found the high priority endemic pipit of this region, **Yellow-**

breasted Pipit. Our next place of business was the plains near Dirkiesdorp. On route we had our first **Sentinel Rock Thrush**, and **Southern Bald Ibis**, but once in the right area Ken quickly spotted the endemic **Barrow's (White-bellied) Korhaan**. Our next order of business was some remnant Afro-montane forest patches. On the way we called in **Drakenberg Prinia** for excellent views. Once in the forest, and after seeing our first **Dark-capped Yellow-Warbler**, we were in hot pursuit of a calling **Barratt's Warbler**. This endemic *Bradypterus* unfortunately behaves much the same as Knysna Warbler. This bird seemed particularly shy as well, some saw it right away, but with some time and perseverance we all had views.



The rolling hills and grassland of the Wakkerstroom area (Scott Watson)

After lunch we went on our much needed Lark hunt. Lucky knows of a great sheep grazing field, and indeed we found all our endemic lark species here. We found the two prize targets, **Rudd's Lark**, and **Botha's Lark** as well as another **Eastern Long-billed Lark**. Both Rudd's and Botha's larks are highly threatened species with extremely small, patchy, ranges. Another stop on the road yielded **Lazy, Wailing, and Wing-snapping Cisticola's**, but adding a little color to the scene was a crowd favorite **Violet-backed Starling**. Our last foray of the day was to find Wattled Crane, but we were only able to find **Blue** and **Grey Crowned Cranes** in the wet fields. Alas our day was very successful in finding the needed endemics of the region.



On the hunt for larks (left) & Botha's Lark able to hide in very short grass (right) (Scott Watson)

October 5th – Wakkerstroom to Kruger National Park

This morning we still needed one more target in the Wakkerstroom area, the endemic **Blue Korhaan**. With early morning fog and mist, visibility was low, but eventually we heard one near the road. With a quick burst of playback an adult Blue Korhaan came dramatically flying through the mist crossing the road in front of us! Satisfied we started our long drive to Kruger. Our goal was to make it to Kruger as quick as possible, so there were few stops until lunch near the Malelane Gate at the southern end of the park. Even before entering the park the gate gardens held quite a few new birds including; **Red-billed Hornbill, Purple Roller, Grey Tit-Flycatcher** (only one of the tour), **Scarlet-chested Sunbird**, and **Village Weaver**.



Cape Buffalo, huge and dangerous. Don't mess with the boss. (Scott Watson)

Once in the park we began the 150km drive north to Satara Rest Camp, but with all the birds and wildlife this would take the remainder of the day. New birds were fast and furious, with plenty of new raptors. **Bateleur** and **Martial Eagle** were major highlights as were both **White-backed** and **Lappet-faced Vultures**. Shortly after seeing a **Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill** perched above a **Dwarf Mongoose** attending a termite mound, we found our first of the “big 5” mammals. No not the relatively easy Elephant or Buffalo, we at Tropical Birding know how to start things off right, how about a Leopard? Indeed less than 1 hour after entering the park we had a **Leopard** lazing close to the road. This was truly an incredible encounter with one seriously majestic cat.



We had our first Leopard after only one hour in the park! (Scott Watson)

Shortly after we would see our **African Elephant**, **Cape Buffalo**, and even **White Rhinoceros** attended by **Red-billed Oxpecker** and **Burchell's Starling**. Further along one must be careful of birds crossing the road, as we had close encounters with **Natal Spurfowl**, **Crested Francolin**, **Double-banded Sandgrouse**, and **Red-crested Korhaan**, soon to be followed by two **Southern Ground-Hornbills**! But then crossing a river Tom shouted “ANOTHER LEOPARD!” We all watched in amazement, seeing our second leopard of the afternoon slink into the reeds and stare us down.



Second Leopard of the afternoon & a beautiful Red-crested Korhaan (Scott Watson)

As the sun was fading and we were approaching our camp we decided to stop for one last mammal sighting. Just a pride of 12 **Lions** gathered on a rock hugging the road!! This was an awesome experience to watch them as they gathered for their nights hunt. There was even a large male amongst them, and further down a huge female was simply wandering the road. So not bad, after only 5 hours in the park we had the “Big 5”; Lion, African elephant, Cape Buffalo, Leopard, and Rhinoceros. Once at camp we signed up for a night drive right away. On this drive mammals were prevalent with **Black-backed Jackal, Common Genet, Spotted Hyena, Hippopotamus** and **Waterbuck** amongst others. One **African Scops Owl** was heard. We called it a night after a long day with lots of distance covered.



Both Red-billed (left) and Southern Yellow-billed Hornbills are common and easy (Scott Watson)



A young Spotted Hyena (Scott Watson)

October 6th – Satara to Mopani rest camp

We awoke this morning to new bird sounds, and before breakfast we did some birding around Satara Camp. The gaudy **Crested Barbet** was simply hanging around the bungalows, as were **Chinspot Batis**, **Burnt-necked Eremomela**, **Tawny-flanked Prinia**, **Brubru**, **Brown-crowned Tchagra**, **Orange-breasted Bush-Shrike**, **White-throated Robin-Chat**, **Brown-headed Parrot**, and **Golden-tailed Woodpecker**. We visited the massive nests of the hulking **Red-billed Buffalo-Weaver**. Next we found a very active pair of **Grey-headed Bush-Shrikes**. These beautiful yet vicious looking birds were in the middle of a romantic dance involving a severed lizards head. After eating the body one bird would gently stroke the others neck with the lizard head and then they would exchange. Interesting behavior, and nothing says romance like being covered in the goopy drippings from the head of a lizard. Just before heading in to breakfast a **Green Wood-Hoopoe** came in close, as did **Southern Black-Tit**, **White-bellied**, and **Marico Sunbirds**.



The gentle nature of Grey-headed Bush-Shrikes (Scott Watson)

After breakfast we went to check on a recent Cheetah sighting, but to no avail. Driving the roads north of Satara we came across many raptors this morning including; **Black-chested Snake-Eagle, Brown Snake-Eagle, Tawny Eagle, Wahlberg's Eagle,** and **African Hawk-Eagle.** We eventually passed by a group of **Hippopotamus** basking in the morning sun, allowing the **Red-billed Oxpeckers** to continue their tick removal. Mammals were everywhere, and we had amazingly close encounters with **Giraffe, Elephant, Warthog** and **White Rhino.** We even witnessed a standoff at a waterhole between a group of Rhinos and a group of massive Elephants. With much nervousness and galloping around (close to our vehicle) there was enough body language by the Elephants to make the Rhinos wait their turn for water.



This huge Elephant was making sure the White Rhinos wait their turn for water (Scott Watson)



These baby Hippo's couldn't look more relaxed (Scott Watson)

An amazing lunch stop at Olifants, further north towards Mopani Camp, revealed spectacular views of the landscape, as well as the huge **Goliath Heron** fishing in the river below. The trees near our lunch table were buzzing too with **Black-headed Orioles**, and a **Red-headed Weaver** adding some color.

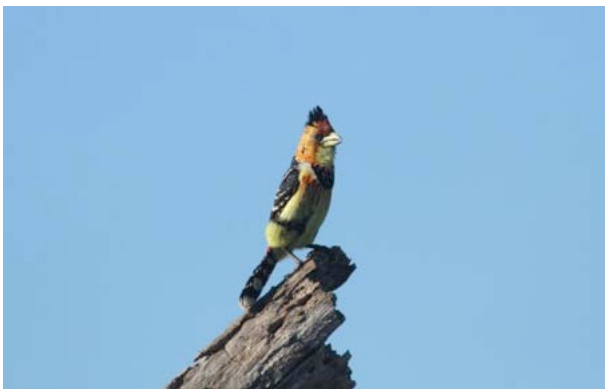


The view of Kruger in October & tank-like White Rhinoceros (Scott Watson)

Driving further north after lunch, frequent stops near water gave us views of **African Jacana** and even **Greater Painted-Snipe**, a great job of spotting by Chris. While continuing along a river checking for anything, suddenly, two blobs of black shot across the road. A quick view revealed them to be the beautiful **Retz's Helmet-Shrikes!** We were on the chase, and with some skillful driving by Ken we got everyone in position to view these fantastic Helmet-Shrikes. Passing more **African Openbill** and **Yellow-billed Storks** we finally made it to Mopani Camp.

October 7th – Mopani rest camp

Birding around the camp this morning was relatively quiet, although new birds were still being found. We came across our first **Yellow-breasted Apalis**, **Kurrichane Thrush**, and our best looks at **Yellow-throated Petronia**. In the trees near the breakfast table we found an early arrival Willow Warbler from Europe. Although not adding much color to the scene it was a nice side dish to our meal. Scanning from the camp balcony was rewarding this morning with yet another two **Greater Painted-Snipe** patrolling the water's edge. **Grey Go-away Birds** were active, as was another **Crested Barbet**. A new bird for the trip, **Rufous-winged Cisticola**, was pretty enough to clear the breakfast table altogether.



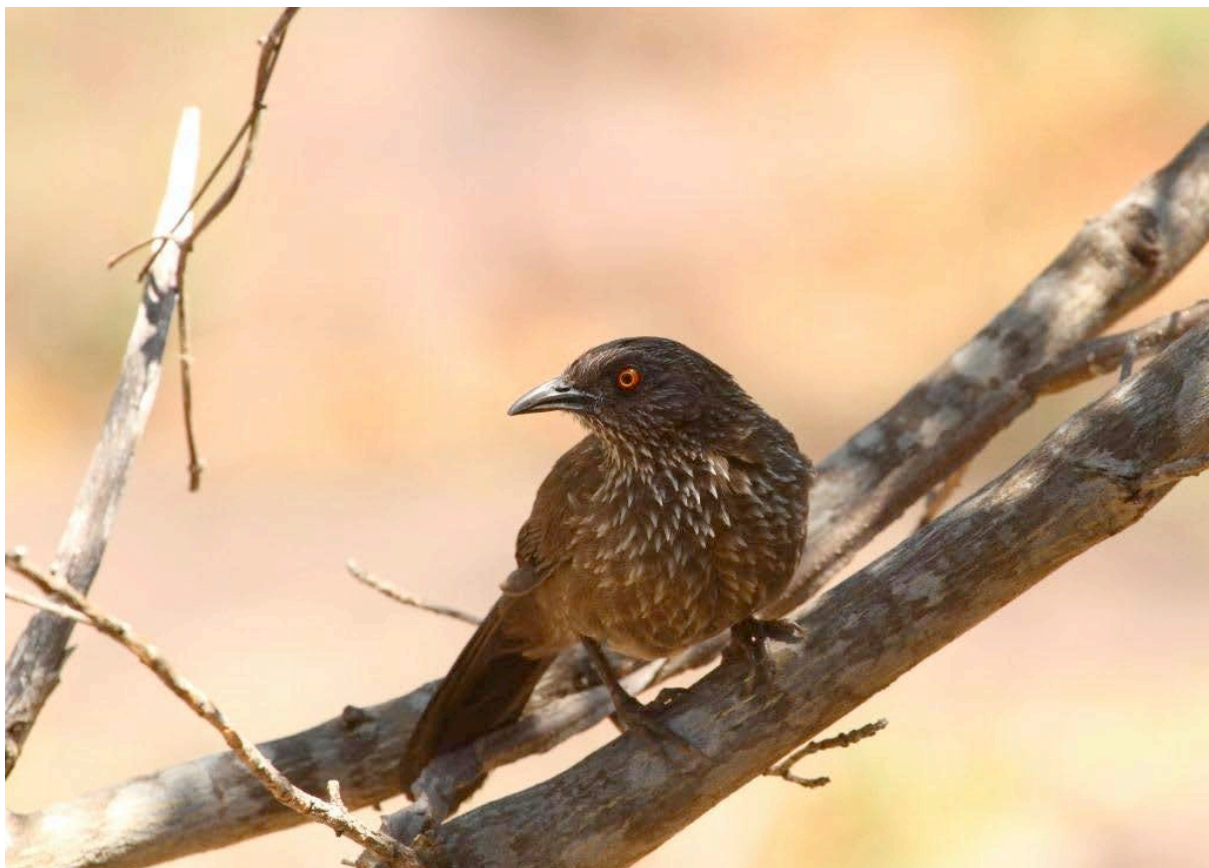
he striking Crested Barbet (left) can be see well from the balcony at Mopani (Scott Watson)

Out on the road we had a great day with more new birds and mammals. We found our first small herd of **Nyala** with some sharp looking **Blue Waxbills** feeding nearby. A stop

at a watering hole gave us all prolonged views of **Elephant**, **Burchell's Zebra**, and one of the heaviest flying birds in the world, **Kori Bustard**. The dry conditions were attracting others such as **White-winged Widowbirds**, **Chestnut-backed Sparrowlark**, and the odd **African Quailfinch** to the water. At the rest camp for lunch Debbie and Eric remained watchful and found a **Little Sparrowhawk** feeding on a small bird just outside their bungalow. This would prove to be the only one of the trip, a great find. During lunch an **Arrow-marked Babbler** came to check us out. These inquisitive birds are always fun to watch. This camp is also home to a massive **Nile Monitor** nearly 5 feet long which hangs around the bungalows, an awesomely powerful animal.



Little Sparrowhawk and Nile Monitor around the bungalows at Mopani (Scott Watson)



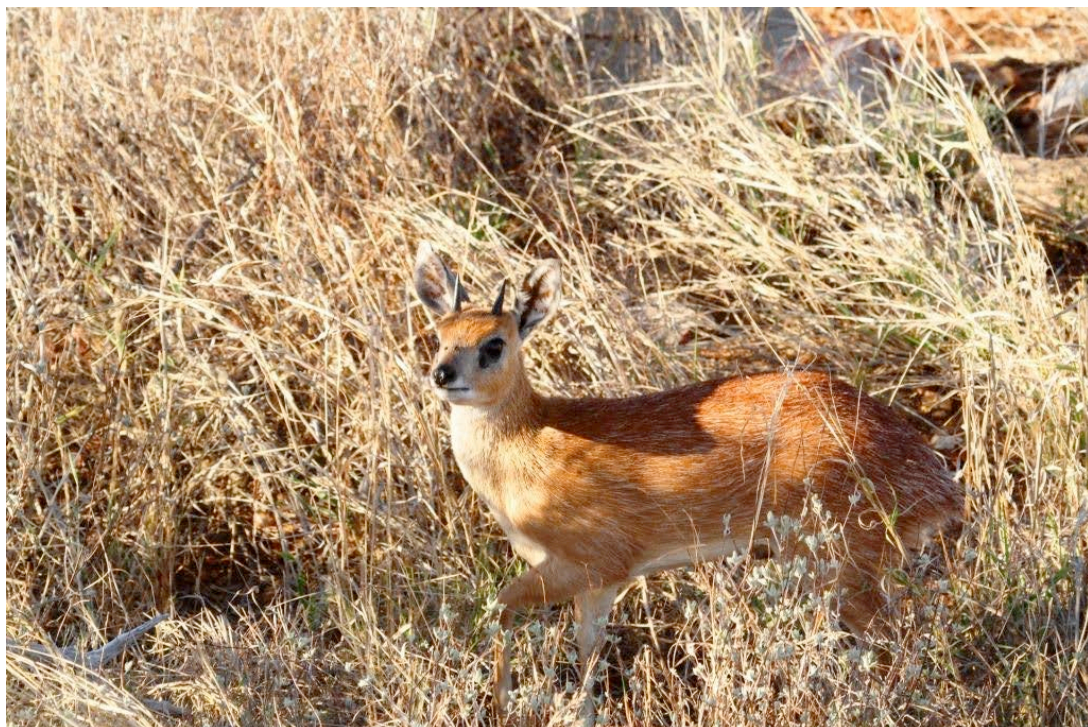
The inquisitive Arrow-marked Babbler (Scott Watson)

In the afternoon we drove to another watering hole and a bird blind. We had to wait for some time as 2 **Elephants** were busy standing on the bridge resting after a soak in the river. The water on the low bridge seemed to attract a few **Black Crakes** which quickly grabbed any insects.



elephant (left), Black Crake (right), like I needed to tell you (Scott Watson)

Nearing the end of the day the bird activity picked up again, and yet still new birds were being seen. **Bennett's Woodpecker, Crowned Hornbill, Southern Black Flycatcher,** and **Dark-chanting Goshawk** were all new for the afternoon. Suddenly while watching the Goshawk a very small antelope crossed the road and darted into the nearby bushes. Desperate to relocate the beast Kevin yells out "I got it". Sharp eyed Kevin had indeed re-found a very uncommon species, a **Sharpe's Grysbok!** This seldom seen (at least in daylight) antelope was also a lifer for Ken, who until now I assumed had seen all life on earth, great find, and great end to the afternoon.



Sharpe's Grysbok, lifer for the guide. (Scott Watson)

But the day was not done yet. Tonight was our last chance for a Kruger night drive, and again we were not disappointed. But even before we left dinner we had a **Blotched Genet** just outside the restaurant. Armed with our torches we set off into the night, first spotting Waterbuck near the camp, but soon after another new antelope, **Common Reedbuck**. Soon we were seeing nightjars as well, over 10 **Square-tailed** and one **Fiery-necked Nightjar**.



Square-tailed Nightjar, common on this night (Scott Watson)

Alas it started, the onslaught of new mammals. Yet another Sharpe's Grysbok, a **Common Genet**, and the weird and wonderful **African Civit**. The night was not finished yet. Our last new mammal would be mega. No more than 30 feet from the truck was a Ratel or **Honey Badger**, possibly the toughest animal in Africa. What a cool looking beast! We have been very fortunate with these night drives, end of story.

October 8th – Kruger to Johannesburg

Today is the last day of birding, and even after all this time there were still some new birds to see. First was an **African Green Pigeon** near the camp in the morning. Next, on our way out we found the long awaited for **Southern White-crowned Shrike**. Further along we found perfect habitat for a potential **Yellow-billed Oxpecker**, a tick covered Giraffe. Sure enough there it was amongst some Red-bills. At the Phalaborwa exit gate we found our last 2 birds of the trip; the stunning **Black-collared Barbet**, and a small flock of **Bronze Mannikins**. The drive back was spent soaking in the spectacular scenery, and watching many of the common and now familiar birds. Back in Johannesburg we finished the tour off right, with a massive braai (barbeque), with large quantities of meat, and cold beer. A great end to an even greater tour.

Bird List

Taxonomy follows Birds of Southern Africa 3rd edition. Sinclair et al, 2002.

Bold – endemic to Southern Africa. *Italics* – near endemic

	English Name	Scientific Name
1	Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>
2	<i>African (Jackass) Penguin</i>	<i>Spheniscus demersus</i>
3	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
4	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>
5	Little Grebe (Dabchick)	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
6	Shy Albatross	<i>Thalassarche cauta</i>
7	Black-browed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>
8	Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche chlororhynchos</i>
9	Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche carteri</i>
10	Southern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>
11	Northern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>
12	Pintado Petrel	<i>Daption capense</i>
13	White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>
14	Great Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gravis</i>
15	Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>
16	Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>
17	Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregetta tropica</i>
18	Great (Eastern) White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>
19	<i>Cape Gannet</i>	<i>Morus capensis</i>
20	White-breasted Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>
21	<i>Cape Cormorant</i>	<i>Phalacrocorax capensis</i>
22	Bank Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax neglectus</i>
23	Long-tailed Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i>
24	<i>Crowned Cormorant</i>	<i>Phalacrocorax coronatus</i>
25	African Darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>
26	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
27	Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>
28	Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>
29	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>
30	Great (White) Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>
31	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
32	Yellow-billed Egret	<i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i>
33	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
34	Common Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>
35	Green-backed (Striated) Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>
36	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
37	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>
38	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>
39	African Openbill (Open-billed Stork)	<i>Anastomus lamelligerus</i>
40	Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>
41	Marabou Stork	<i>Leptopilos crumeniferus</i>
42	Saddle-billed Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus senegal.</i>
43	Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>
44	Southern Bald Ibis	<i>Geronticus calvus</i>
45	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>
46	Hadedda Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
47	African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>

48	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>
49	Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus minor</i>
50	White-faced Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>
51	White-backed Duck	<i>Thalassornis leuconotus</i>
52	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>
53	South African Shelduck	<i>Tadorna cana</i>
54	Yellow-billed Duck	<i>Anas undulata</i>
55	African Black Duck	<i>Anas sparsa</i>
56	Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>
57	Hottentot Teal	<i>Anas hottentota</i>
58	Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>
59	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
60	<i>Cape Shoveler</i>	<i>Anas smithii</i>
61	Southern Pochard	<i>Netta erythrophthalma</i>
62	Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>
63	Maccoa Duck	<i>Oxyura maccoa</i>
64	Secretarybird	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>
65	Lappet-faced Vulture	<i>Torgos tracheliotus</i>
66	White-headed Vulture	<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>
67	Cape Vulture	<i>Gyps coprotheres</i>
68	(African) White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>
69	Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>
70	Yellow-billed (Black) Kite	<i>Milvus parasitus</i>
71	Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
72	Verreaux's (Black) Eagle	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>
73	Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>
74	Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Aquila wahlbergi</i>
75	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>
76	African Hawk Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus spilogaster</i>
77	Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>
78	Brown Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>
79	Black-chested Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus pectoralis</i>
80	Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>
81	African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>
82	Forest Buzzard	<i>Buteo trizonatus</i>
83	Jackal Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufofuscus</i>
84	African Harrier-hawk (Gymnogene)	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>
85	Little Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter minullus</i>
86	Black Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter melanoleucus</i>
87	<i>Pale Chanting Goshawk</i>	<i>Melierax canorus</i>
88	Dark Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax metabates</i>
89	African Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>
90	Black Harrier	<i>Circus maurus</i>
91	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
92	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
93	Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>
94	Rock Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
95	Greater Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicoloides</i>
96	Crested Francolin	<i>Periperdix sephaena</i>
97	Grey-winged Francolin	<i>Pternistes africanus</i>
98	Red-winged Francolin	<i>Scleroptila levillanti</i>
99	Cape Francolin	<i>Pternistes capensis</i>

100	<i>Natal Francolin</i>	<i>Pternistes natalensis</i>
101	Red-necked Spurfowl (Francolin)	<i>Pternistes afer</i>
102	<i>Swainson's Spurfowl (Francolin)</i>	<i>Pternistes swainsonii</i>
103	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>
104	Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>
105	Blue Crane	<i>Anthropoides paradiseus</i>
106	Grey (Southern) Crowned Crane	<i>Balearica regulorum</i>
107	African Rail	<i>Rallus caerulescens</i>
108	Black Crake	<i>Amauornis flavirostris</i>
109	Red-chested Flufftail	<i>Sarothrura rufa</i>
110	African Purple Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>
111	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
112	Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>
113	African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>
114	Kori Bustard	<i>Ardeotis kori</i>
115	Denham's (Stanley) Bustard	<i>Neotis denhami</i>
116	Barrow's (S. White-bellied) Korhaan	<i>Eupodotis barrowii</i>
117	Blue Korhaan	<i>Eupodotis caerulescens</i>
118	Karoo Korhaan	<i>Eupodotis vigorsii</i>
119	Red-crested Korhaan	<i>Eupodotis ruficrista</i>
120	Southern Black Korhaan	<i>Eupodotis afra</i>
121	African Black Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus moquini</i>
122	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>
123	White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>
124	Chestnut-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>
125	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>
126	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>
127	Grey (Black-bellied) Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
128	Crowned Lapwing (Plover)	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>
129	Black-winged Plover	<i>Vanellus melanopterus</i>
130	Blacksmith Lapwing (Plover)	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>
131	African Wattled Lapwing (Plover)	<i>Vanellus crassirostris</i>
132	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
133	Common Sandpiper	<i>Tringa hypoleucos</i>
134	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
135	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
136	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
137	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>
138	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>
139	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>
140	Greater Painted Snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>
141	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>
142	Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>
143	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
144	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
145	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
146	Collared (Red-winged) Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>
147	Spotted Thick-knee (Dikkop)	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>
148	Water Thick-knee (Dikkop)	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>
149	Subantarctic Skua	<i>Catharacta antarctica</i>
150	Jaeger sp. (Pomarine or Parasitic)	<i>Stercorarius sp.</i>
151	Kelp (Cape) Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>

152	Grey-headed Gull	<i>Larus cirrocephalus</i>
153	Hartlaub's Gull	<i>Larus hartlaubii</i>
154	Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>
155	Swift (Great Crested) Tern	<i>Sterna bergii</i>
156	Sandwich Tern	<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>
157	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>
158	Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>
159	Antarctic Tern	<i>Sterna vittata</i>
160	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>
161	<i>Namaqua Sandgrouse</i>	<i>Pterocles namaqua</i>
162	<i>Double-banded Sandgrouse</i>	<i>Pterocles bicinctus</i>
163	Feral (Rock) Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>
164	Speckled (Rock) Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>
165	African (Rameron) Olive-Pigeon	<i>Columba arquatrix</i>
166	Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>
167	Cape Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
168	Laughing (Palm) Dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
169	African Mourning Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>
170	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>
171	Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>
172	Tambourine Dove	<i>Turtur tympanistria</i>
173	Lemon (Cinnamon) Dove	<i>Columba larvata</i>
174	African Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calva</i>
175	Brown-headed Parrot	<i>Poicephalus cryptoxanthus</i>
176	Knysna Turaco	<i>Tauraco corythaix</i>
177	Grey Go-away Bird	<i>Corythaixoides concolor</i>
178	Red-chested Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>
179	African Emerald Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx cupreus</i>
180	Klaas's Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>
181	Diderick (Diederik) Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>
182	<i>Burchell's Coucal</i>	<i>Centropus burchellii</i>
183	African Wood Owl	<i>Strix woodfordii</i>
184	African Scops Owl	<i>Otus senegalensis</i>
185	Pearl-spotted Owl	<i>Glaucidium perlatum</i>
186	Spotted Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>
187	Fiery-necked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus pectoralis</i>
188	Rufous-cheeked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus rufigena</i>
189	Square-tailed (Mozambique) Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus fossii</i>
190	African Black Swift	<i>Apus barbatus</i>
191	White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>
192	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>
193	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>
194	African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>
195	Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>
196	White-backed Mousebird	<i>Colius colius</i>
197	Red-faced Mousebird	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>
198	Narina Trogon	<i>Apaloderma narina</i>
199	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
200	Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>
201	Half-collared Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo semitorquata</i>
202	Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo cristata</i>
203	Brown-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon albiventris</i>

204	Grey-Headed (Grey-hooded) Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon leucocephala</i>
205	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>
206	White-fronted Bee-eater	<i>Merops bullockoides</i>
207	Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>
208	Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudata</i>
209	Purple Roller	<i>Coracias naevia</i>
210	African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>
211	Green (Red-billed) Wood-Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>
212	Common (Greater) Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>
213	African Grey Hornbill	<i>Tockus nasutus</i>
214	Southern Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus erythrorhynchus</i>
215	<i>Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill</i>	<i>Tockus leucomelas</i>
216	Crowned Hornbill	<i>Tockus alboterminatus</i>
217	Southern Ground Hornbill	<i>Bucorvus leadbeateri</i>
218	Black-collared Barbet	<i>Lybius torquatus</i>
219	<i>Pied Barbet</i>	<i>Tricholaema leucomelas</i>
220	Crested Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus vaillantii</i>
221	Scaly-throated Honeyguide	<i>Indicator variegatus</i>
222	Ground Woodpecker	<i>Geocolaptes olivaceus</i>
223	Bennett's Woodpecker	<i>Campethera bennettii</i>
224	Golden-tailed Woodpecker	<i>Campethera abingoni</i>
225	Knysna Woodpecker	<i>Campethera notata</i>
226	Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>
227	Olive Woodpecker	<i>Mesopicos griseocephalus</i>
228	Red-throated Wryneck	<i>Jynx ruficollis</i>
229	Rufous-naped Lark	<i>Mirafra africana</i>
230	Eastern Clapper Lark	<i>Mirafra fasciolata</i>
231	Cape Clapper Lark	<i>Mirafra apiata</i>
232	Agulhas Clapper Lark	<i>Mirafra marjoriae</i>
233	<i>Sabota Lark</i>	<i>Mirafra sabota</i>
234	Rudd's Lark	<i>Heteromirafra ruddi</i>
235	Cape Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda curvirostris</i>
236	Agulhas Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda brevirostris</i>
237	Eastern Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda semitorquata</i>
238	Karoo Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda subcoronata</i>
239	Karoo Lark	<i>Mirafra albescens</i>
240	<i>Spike-heeled Lark</i>	<i>Chersomanes albofasciata</i>
241	Red-capped Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>
242	Pink-billed Lark	<i>Spizocorys conirostris</i>
243	Botha's Lark	<i>Spizocorys fringillaris</i>
244	Large-billed (S. Thick-billed) Lark	<i>Galerida magnirostris</i>
245	<i>Grey-backed Sparrowlark</i>	<i>Eremopterix verticalis</i>
246	Chestnut-backed Sparrowlark	<i>Eremopterix australis</i>
247	Black-eared Sparrowlark (Finch-lark)	<i>Eremopterys leucotis</i>
248	Barn (European) Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
249	White-throated Swallow	<i>Hirundo albigularis</i>
250	Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>
251	Pearl-breasted Swallow	<i>Hirundo dimidiata</i>
252	Red-breasted Swallow	<i>Hirundo semirufa</i>
253	Mosque Swallow	<i>Hirundo senegalensis</i>
254	<i>Greater Striped Swallow</i>	<i>Hirundo cucullata</i>
255	Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Hirundo abyssinica</i>

256	South African Cliff Swallow	<i>Hirundo spilodera</i>
257	Rock Martin	<i>Hirundo fuligula</i>
258	Brown-throated (Plain) Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>
259	Banded Martin	<i>Riparia cincta</i>
260	Black Saw-wing (Swallow)	<i>Psalidoprocne holomelas</i>
261	Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>
262	(Eastern) Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus larvatus</i>
263	Black (Cape) Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>
264	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>
265	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>
266	White-necked Raven	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>
267	<i>Southern Black Tit</i>	<i>Parus niger</i>
268	<i>Cape Penduline Tit</i>	<i>Anthoscopus minutus</i>
269	Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>
270	Cape Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus capensis</i>
271	<i>African Red-eyed Bulbul</i>	<i>Pycnonotus nigricans</i>
272	Dark-capped (Black-eyed) Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>
273	Terrestrial Brownbul (Bulbul)	<i>Phyllastrephus terrestris</i>
274	Sombre Greenbul (Bulbul)	<i>Andropadus importunus</i>
275	Groundscaper Thrush	<i>Psophocichla litsitsirupa</i>
276	Kurrichane Thrush	<i>Turdus libonyanus</i>
277	Olive Thrush	<i>Turdus smithi</i>
278	Karoo Thrush	<i>Turdus olivaceus</i>
279	Cape Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola rupestris</i>
280	<i>Sentinel Rock Thrush</i>	<i>Monticola explorator</i>
281	<i>Short-toed Rock Thrush</i>	<i>Monticola brevipes</i>
282	Cape Rockjumper	<i>Chaetops frenatus</i>
283	<i>Mountain Wheatear (Chat)</i>	<i>Oenanthe monticola</i>
284	Capped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>
285	Buff-streaked Chat	<i>Oenanthe bifasciata</i>
286	Familiar Chat	<i>Cercomela familiaris</i>
287	Sickle-winged Chat	<i>Cercomela sinuata</i>
288	<i>Karoo Chat</i>	<i>Cercomela schlegelii</i>
289	Mocking Cliff-Chat	<i>Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris</i>
290	(Southern) Ant-eating Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla formicivora</i>
291	African (Common) Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>
292	Chorister Robin-chat (Robin)	<i>Cossypha dichroa</i>
293	White-browed (Heuglin's) Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha heuglini</i>
294	Cape Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha caffra</i>
295	<i>(African) White-throated Robin-Chat</i>	<i>Cossypha humeralis</i>
296	White-browed Scrub-Robin	<i>Erythropygia leucophrys</i>
297	Karoo Scrub-robin	<i>Erythropygia coryphaeus</i>
298	White-starred (Starred) Robin	<i>Pogonocichla stellata</i>
299	<i>Chestnut-vented Tit-babbler</i>	<i>Parisoma subcaeruleum</i>
300	Layard's Tit-babbler	<i>Parisoma layardi</i>
301	African (Marsh) Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus baeticatus</i>
302	(Cape Reed) Lesser Swamp-Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus gracilirostris</i>
303	Dark-capped (African) Yellow Warbler	<i>Chloropeta natalensis</i>
304	(African Sedge) Little Rush-Warbler	<i>Bradypterus baboecala</i>
305	Barratt's Warbler	<i>Bradypterus barratti</i>
306	Knysna Warbler	<i>Bradypterus sylvaticus</i>
307	Victorin's Warbler	<i>Bradypterus victorini</i>

308	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>
309	Yellow-throated Woodland-Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus ruficapilla</i>
310	Bar-throated Apalis	<i>Apalis thoracica</i>
311	Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flavida</i>
312	Long-billed Crombec	<i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>
313	Yellow-bellied Eremomela	<i>Eremomela icteropygialis</i>
314	Burnt-necked Eremomela	<i>Eremomela usticollis</i>
315	Green-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brachyura</i>
316	Cinnamon-breasted Warbler	<i>Eurypytila subcinnamomea</i>
317	Cape Grassbird	<i>Sphenoeacus afer</i>
318	Fan-tailed (Zitting) Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
319	Cloud Cisticola	<i>Cisticola textrix</i>
320	Wing-snapping (Ayres') Cisticola	<i>Cisticola ayresii</i>
321	Grey-backed Cisticola	<i>Cisticola subruficapillus</i>
322	Wailing Cisticola	<i>Cisticola lais</i>
323	Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chinianus</i>
324	Red-faced Cisticola	<i>Cisticola erythrops</i>
325	Levaillant's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola tinniens</i>
326	Rufous-winged (Winding) Cisticola	<i>Cisticola galactotes</i>
327	Lazy Cisticola	<i>Cisticola aberrans</i>
328	Neddicky (Piping Cisticola)	<i>Cisticola fulvicapillus</i>
329	Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>
330	Karoo (Spotted) Prinia	<i>Prinia maculosa</i>
331	Drakensberg Prinia	<i>Prinia hypoxantha</i>
332	Namaqua Warbler	<i>Phragmacia substriata</i>
333	Rufous-eared Warbler	<i>Malcorus pectoralis</i>
334	African Dusky Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa adusta</i>
335	Grey Tit-Flycatcher (Fan-tailed Flycatcher)	<i>Myioparus plumbeus</i>
336	Southern Black Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis pammelaina</i>
337	Fiscal Flycatcher	<i>Sigelus silens</i>
338	<i>Chat Flycatcher</i>	<i>Melaenornis infuscatus</i>
339	Cape Batis	<i>Batis capensis</i>
340	Chin-spot Batis	<i>Batis molitor</i>
341	Pirit Batis	<i>Batis pririt</i>
342	Fairy Flycatcher	<i>Stenostira scita</i>
343	Blue-mantled Flycatcher	<i>Trochocercus cyanomelas</i>
344	African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>
345	African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>
346	Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>
347	African Pipit (Grassveld Pipit)	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>
348	Long-billed Pipit	<i>Anthus similis</i>
349	Plain-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus leucophrys</i>
350	African Rock Pipit	<i>Anthus crenatus</i>
351	Yellow-breasted Pipit	<i>Hemimacronyx chloris</i>
352	Cape (Orange-throated) Longclaw	<i>Macronyx capensis</i>
353	Common Fiscal (Fiscal Shrike)	<i>Lanius collaris</i>
354	Southern Boubou	<i>Laniarius ferrugineus</i>
355	(African Long-tailed) Magpie Shrike	<i>Corvinella melanoleuca</i>
356	Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubla</i>
357	Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>
358	Southern Tchagra	<i>Tchagra tchagra</i>
359	Brown-crowned (Three-streaked) Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>

360	Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegala</i>
361	<i>Bokmakierie</i>	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>
362	Orange-breasted Bush-Shrike	<i>Telophorus sulfureopectus</i>
363	<i>Olive Bush-Shrike</i>	<i>Telophorus olivaceus</i>
364	Grey-headed Bush-Shrike	<i>Malaconotus blanchoti</i>
365	White-crested (White) Helmet-shrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>
366	Retz's (Red-billed) Helmet-Shrike	<i>Prionop retzi</i>
367	Southern White-crowned Shrike	<i>Eurocephalus anguitimens</i>
368	Common (European) Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
369	Common (Indian) Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
370	(African) Pied Starling	<i>Spreo bicolor</i>
371	Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>
372	Violet-Backed (Plum-coloured) Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>
373	Cape Glossy Starling	<i>Lamprotornis nitens</i>
374	Greater Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>
375	Black-bellied Starling	<i>Lamprotornis corruscus</i>
376	<i>Burchells Starling</i>	<i>Lamprotornis australis</i>
377	Red-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>
378	<i>Pale-winged Starling</i>	<i>Onychognathus nabouroup</i>
379	Red-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>
380	Yellow-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus africanus</i>
381	Cape Sugarbird	<i>Promerops cafer</i>
382	Malachite Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia famosa</i>
383	Orange-breasted Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia violacea</i>
384	Marico Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia mariquensis</i>
385	Southern (Lesser) Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia chalybea</i>
386	Greater Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia afra</i>
387	White-bellied Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia talatala</i>
388	<i>Dusky Sunbird</i>	<i>Nectarinia fusca</i>
389	Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia senegalensis</i>
390	Amethyst (African Black) Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia amethystina</i>
391	Grey Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia veroxii</i>
392	Cape White-eye	<i>Zosterops capensis</i>
393	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
394	<i>Cape Sparrow</i>	<i>Passer melanurus</i>
395	Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer diffusus</i>
396	Yellow-throated Petronia (Sparrow)	<i>Petronia superciliaris</i>
397	Red-billed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Bubalornis niger</i>
398	Spectacled Weaver	<i>Ploceus ocularis</i>
399	Village (Spot-backed) Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>
400	Cape Weaver	<i>Ploceus capensis</i>
401	Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>
402	Lesser Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus intermedius</i>
403	Red-headed Weaver	<i>Anaplectes rubriceps</i>
404	Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>
405	Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>
406	Golden Bishop	<i>Euplectes afer</i>
407	Yellow Bishop (Yellow-rumped Widow)	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>
408	White-winged Widowbird (Widow)	<i>Euplectes albonotatus</i>
409	Red-collared Widow (Widow)	<i>Euplectes ardens</i>
410	Long-tailed Widowbird (Widow)	<i>Euplectes progne</i>
411	Green-winged Pytilia (Melba Finch)	<i>Pytilia melba</i>

412	Blue Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>
413	Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>
414	Swee Waxbill	<i>Estrilda melanotis</i>
415	African Quailfinch	<i>Ortygospiza atricollis</i>
416	Bronze Mannikin	<i>Spermestes cucullatus</i>
417	Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>
418	Yellow-fronted (Yellow-eyed) Canary	<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>
419	Black-throated Canary	<i>Serinus atrogularis</i>
420	Cape Canary	<i>Serinus canicollis</i>
421	Forest Canary	<i>Serinus scotops</i>
422	Cape Siskin	<i>Pseudochloroptila totta</i>
423	Black-headed Canary	<i>Serinus alario</i>
424	Brimstone (Bully) Canary	<i>Serinus sulphuratus</i>
425	Yellow Canary	<i>Serinus flaviventris</i>
426	<i>White-throated Canary</i>	<i>Serinus albogularis</i>
427	Protea Seadeater (Canary)	<i>Serinus leucopterus</i>
428	Streaky-headed Seedeater (Canary)	<i>Serinus gularis</i>
429	Golden-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>
430	Cape Bunting	<i>Emberiza capensis</i>
431	<i>Lark-like Bunting</i>	<i>Emberiza impetuani</i>

MAMMAL LIST. The Kingdon Field Guide to African Mammals, 2003.

1	<i>Chacma Baboon</i>	<i>Papio ursinus</i>
2	Vervet Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i>
3	Cape Hare	<i>Lepus capensis</i>
4	Scrub Hare	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>
5	Tree Squirrel	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>
6	Eastern Gray Squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>
7	Striped Mouse	<i>Rhodomys pumilio</i>
8	Black-backed Jackal	<i>Canis mesomelas</i>
9	Cape Clawless Otter	<i>Aonyx capensis</i>
10	Small (Cape) Grey Mongoose	<i>Galerella pulverulenta</i>
11	Slender Mongoose	<i>Galerella sanguinea</i>
12	Dwarf Mongoose	<i>Helogale parvula</i>
13	<i>Yellow Mongoose</i>	<i>Cynictis penicillata</i>
14	<i>Suricate (Meerkat)</i>	<i>Suricata suricatta</i>
15	Ratel (Honey Badger)	<i>Mellivora capensis</i>
16	African Civet	<i>Civettictis civetta</i>
17	Blotched Genet	<i>Genetta tigrina</i>
18	Common Genet	<i>Genette genetta</i>
19	Spotted Hyena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>
20	Aardwolf	<i>Proteles cristatus</i>
21	African Wild Cat	<i>Felis lybica</i>
22	Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>
23	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>
24	Elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>
25	Rock Hyrax (Dassie)	<i>Procavia capensis</i>
26	Cape Mountain Zebra	<i>Equus zebra</i>
27	Burchell's Zebra	<i>Equus burchellii</i>
28	White Rhino	<i>Ceratotherium simum</i>
29	Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus aethiopicus</i>
30	Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>
31	Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>
32	Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>
33	Eland	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>
34	Kudu (Greater)	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>
35	Nyala	<i>Tragelaphus angasii</i>
36	Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>
37	Gemsbok (Southern Oryx)	<i>Oryx gazella</i>
38	Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>
39	Springbuck	<i>Antidorcus marsupialis</i>
40	Common Reedbuck	<i>Redunca arundinum</i>
41	Grey Rhebok	<i>Pelea capreolus</i>
42	Blue Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>
43	Red Haartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus</i>
44	Tsessebe	<i>Damaliscus lunatus</i>
45	Bontebok	<i>Damaliscus dorcas</i>
46	Blesbok	<i>Damaliscus phillipsi</i>
47	Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>
48	Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>
49	Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>

50	Cape Grysbok	<i>Raphicerus melanotis</i>
51	Sharpe's Grysbok	<i>Raphicerus sharpei</i>
52	Common Duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>
53	Epauletted Fruit-Bat sp.	<i>Epomophorus sp.</i>
54	Cape Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus pusillus</i>
55	Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>
56	Bryde's Whale	<i>Balaenoptera brydei</i>
57	Common Dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>