



# South Africa

PHOTO JOURNEY

A Tropical Birding Set Departure

August 31-September 17, 2014 Guide: Ken Behrens

All photos taken by the guide and participants

This report is optimally viewed two pages at a time. If your PDF reader automatically separates the first page as a cover, you may need to insert a blank first page to align the 2-page spreads correctly.

For higher-resolution versions of most of the photos in this report, plus bonus images from this trip:
https://www.flickr.com/photos/5264873
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#### **TOUR SUMMARY**

South Africa is a fabulous destination for bird, wildlife, and landscape photography. Of course Kruger National Park and its huge mammal diversity, including all of the "Big 5", is well known. But there is much more to South Africa than that famous park. In fact, the most scenically beautiful and distinctive parts of the country are found away from the Kruger lowlands. Kruger is wonderful, but it's fairly similar to other savannah parks in Africa, whereas other parts of South Africa hold beautiful and distinctive landscapes, and rich sets of endemic birds, mammals, and reptiles. You can take a dozen classic African safaris to places like Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia, and see most of the same birds and mammals over and over. South Africa offers a completely different set of



experiences on top of Kruger's world-class wildlife photography. Around Cape Town, the climate is Mediterranean, and the major biome is the fynbos, one of the World's most diverse in terms of plants, and also supporting many endemic birds and mammals. Cape Town is scenically stunning, with the famous Table Mountain as its backdrop, and magnificent seascapes on all sides. Inland from the Cape lies the Karoo. Despite its proximity to the moist fynbos, this is a completely different world of dry scrubland and hauntingly beautiful landscapes that are reminiscent of the American Southwest. In the eastern part of the country, this tour takes in the Highveld, beautiful high-elevation grasslands with an attending suite of endemics. And of course, there is Kruger National Park... South Africa as seen by National Geographic.



A Cape Gannet colony, one of the trip highlights, and a world away from normal "safari fare"!

Michael Jeffords.

The locations on this photo safari were carefully chosen by Tropical Birding's experienced guides as those most productive for photography. Although South Africa does not have the Neotropics' abundance of bird feeders or blind setups, by visiting the right locations, and approaching them with the assistance of a guide who knows the locations and wildlife intimately well,



photographers can come away from this country with a "haul" of photographs that matches or exceeds that from any other destination.

Despite being fairly short, this tour succeeded in ensuring that everyone came away with excellent photos of birds, mammals, other animals, and landscapes. We saw or heard 341 species of birds. Of those we photographed 272. And of those 272 photographed species, 183 were photographed well by at least one member of the group (see the bird list at the end of the report for details). That means that everyone on the trip went home with good photographs of a minimum of 100-150 species of birds. Those included a bunch of francolins and wading birds, 19 species of raptors, several kingfishers, bee-eaters, and rollers, multiple hornbills, loads of spritely warblers, 8 sunbirds, and a diverse set of weavers. And many of these birds were far from the normal "safari fare", including handsome Cape endemics like Cape Grassbird and Orange-breasted Sunbird; Karoo specialties like Rufous-eared Warbler; Highveld species like Red-winged Francolin and Buff-streaked Chat; and uncommon Kruger birds including Shelley's Francolin, Bearded Scrub-Robin, and White-throated Robin-Chat.



We enjoyed a fantastic leopard sighting in Kruger NP. Ken Behrens.

A couple of hours spent at a Jackass Penguin colony near Cape Town was certainly one of the highlights of the tour. A late afternoon visit ensured that we had beautiful light and loads of penguins returning to the shore after a day of fishing. Another of the tour's high points came a couple days later, when we visited the Cape Gannet colony at Lambert's Bay on the West Coast. The spectacle of 1000s of breeding gannets was a wonder to behold and a pleasure to photograph. The wheat fields



and remnant fynbos of the Overberg held dancing Blue Cranes, one of our major photographic targets. On the other side of the country, a bonus excursion to a bird sanctuary near Johannesburg was a photographic jackpot, and will certainly be included in future tours.

We saw 43 species of mammals, of which 38 were photographed. These included normal Africa staples like impala, common zebra, and giraffe, plus South African specialties like bontebok, blesbok, and Sharpe's grysbok. Want to stump your friends with photos of antelope that they don't recognize? Come to South Africa! Kruger was very good to us in the predator department. We had more lions than we could keep track of, one superb leopard sighting (plus a couple of bonus sightings), several spotted hyenas, and even saw a couple of cheetahs. White rhino and African buffalo were highly sought-after targets, and during our days in Kruger, we had wonderful encounters with both, coming away with beautiful photos. Unlike many safaris, we certainly didn't ignore small mammals. It was a pleasure to photograph species like steenbok, spot-necked otter, dwarf mongoose, four-striped grass mouse, and tree squirrel. At the end of the trip, most of the participants opted for the Big Cat Extension, a couple of extra days at the legendary Kirkman's Camp, focused on getting even more amazing photos of mammals; predators in particular. For more on the extension, read on:

## **Special Report on the Big Cat Extension by participant Sue Post:**

Three of us were dropped off at a gate to Sabi Sands Preserve to begin the last leg of our adventure — the big cat extension. At Kirkman's Camp we had our own open-air safari vehicle, as arranged by Tropical Birding. We were not constrained by roads, wildlife-induced traffic jams, or additional onlookers. If Kruger had given us a sense of what was possible photographically, Kirkman's made it all a reality.

On our first outing, we witnessed a cluster of White-backed and Hooded Vultures patiently waiting above a recent lion kill. A lioness lay panting nearby, while a spotted hyena paced in the background. The day had only begun as we headed to the river to photograph a trio of white rhinos, but they were soon forgotten when a herd of African buffalo emerged in a cloud of dust, grunting, bellowing and charging down to the water. We and our gear were soon covered with the fine grit as we captured this very "African" moment! After our sundowner drink and snack, under the shade of an iconic sycamore fig, the evening still held more surprises. We followed a female leopard through



the bush, watching as she rested and groomed. We were close enough to notice she had an engorged tick on her otherwise immaculate coat and to hear the rasping of her tongue against her fur!



Wild dog was one of the extension highlights. Sue Post.

This was merely the first of six drives we would experience at the camp. Although we only added one additional birds to our trip list—Green-winged Pytilia—I felt as if I was part of a David Attenbourgh documentary during each day and evening drive. The sights that we saw and photographed were incredible. We were able to witness and hear vultures tearing muscles and tendons in a decimated, aromatic, African buffalo corpse. We were in the midst of a "chess match" between a lion pride and male buffalo, the buffalo already bleeding from wounds; it was a stalemate. We watched a leopard as it followed scent clues along the riverbank, adding its own, and eventually crossed the Sand River to disappear into the reeds. We located a herd of buffalo in the early morning, the sun glinting off their massive horns while flocks of oxpeckers had a breakfast feast of ticks. Near the end of our trip, we followed the antics of a troop of wild dogs, replete with pups, and visited a spotted hyena den. Our visit to Sabi Sands provided the perfect conclusion to an already exceptional trip.



OK, that's enough prose... the best way to tell the story of this tour is with the gallery of photos that follows the itinerary. If a picture is worth 1000 words, you have a 130,000-word report on your hands!



Clockwise from top left: Bokmakeirie, Southern Red Bishop, Cape Weaver, and Purple-crested Turaco. Top right by Christian Sánchez; others by Ken Behrens.

### **ITINERARY**

August 31Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden and Strandfontein Sewage WorksSeptember 1Kommetjie, Cape Penisula NP, and Boulders Beach penguin colony

**September 2** West Coast to Lambert's Bay gannet colony

September 3 Lambert's Bay to Tanqua Karoo

September 4 Tanqua Karoo

September 5 Tanqua Karoo to Overberg

September 6 Bontebok NP to Cape Town. Flight to Johannesburg

**September 7** Marievale Bird Sanctuary to Dullstroom

September 8 Kruger NP: Satara area

September 9 Kguer NP: Satara

September 10 Kruger NP: Satara to Oliphants

September 11 Kruger NP: Oliphants

September 12 Kruger NP: Oliphants to Skukuza

September 13 Kruger NP: Skukuza

September 14 Kruger NP: Skukuza to Sabi Sands (extension). Flight to Johannesburg

September 15 Big Cat Extension: Sabi Sands
September 16 Big Cat Extension: Sabi Sands

**September 17** Big Cat Extension: Sabi Sands. Flight to Johannesburg



A pair of courting Blue Cranes in the springtime Overberg. Ken Behrens.



## **PHOTO GALLERY**



A baby African elephant stays close to its mother in Kruger NP. Ken Behrens.



A trio of Greater Flamingoes from our first day, in the surprisingly magnificent Strandfontein Sewage Works! Michael Jeffords.





A couple of Old World flycatchers: Pale Flycatcher (left) and Cape Robin-Chat (right). Left by Ken Behrens and right by Christian Sánchez.



We made an early morning stop north of Cape Town for some Table Bay landscape photography. Ken Behrens.





Bateleur is just one of a bounty of raptors photographed in Kruger NP. Ken Behrens.



African Mourning Dove from Kruger NP, where the camps are full of tame birds. Ken Behrens.



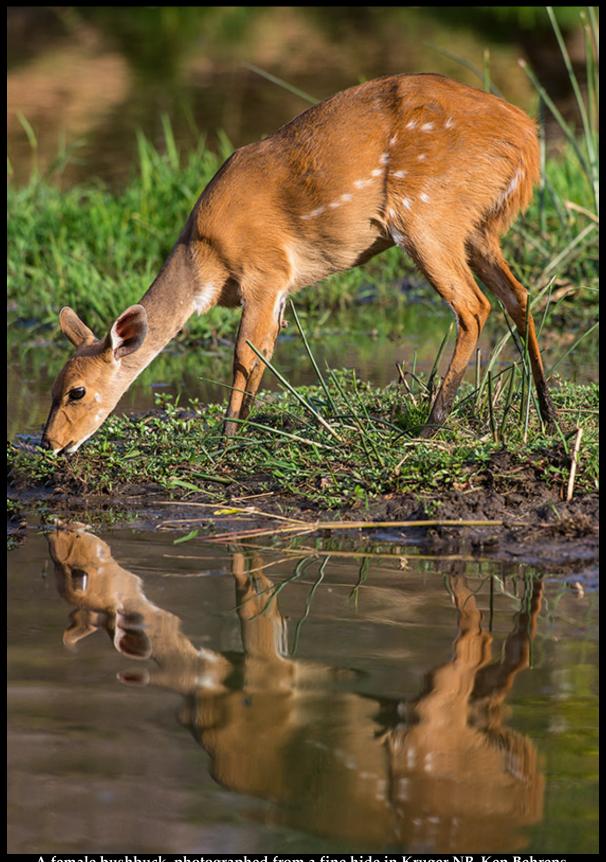


A couple of Kruger's bounty of bird species, most of which are approachable and photographable: Natal Francolin (left) and Golden-breasted Bunting (right). Ken Behrens.



African Black Oystercatchers at Kommetjie, on the Cape Peninsula. Ken Behrens.





A female bushbuck, photographed from a fine hide in Kruger NP. Ken Behrens.





Burchell's Common Zebras and the dry season colors of Kruger. Ken Behrens.



Kruger's picnic areas have ridiculously tame birds like this Greater Blue-eared Glossy Starling. Ken Behrens.





Photographing the Lambert's Bay Cape Gannet colony was a trip highlight. Ken Behrens.



A handsome Southern tree agama in Kruger. Ken Behrens.





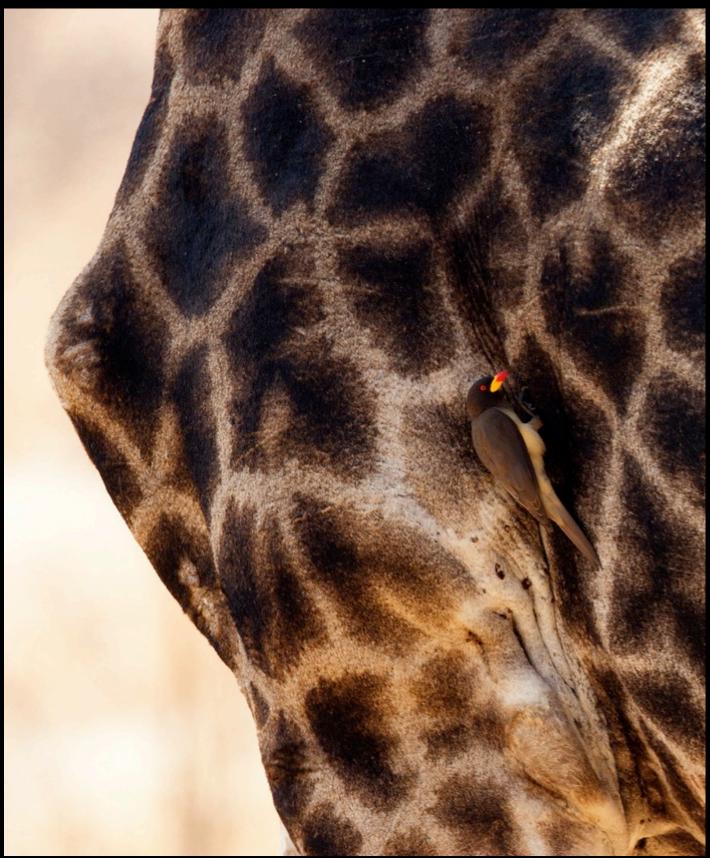
A soulful-looking Chacma baboon from Kruger. Michael Jeffords.





Swift photography is always a challenge. Here a White-rumped (left) and an Alpine (right). Ken Behrens.





Yellow-billed Oxpecker on its mighty steed. Michael Jeffords.





A couple hours spent photographing Jackass or African Penguins near Cape Town was a delight. Two-page photo by Christian Sánchez. Bottom two photos by Ken Behrens.













Along with charismatic avian subjects like penguins and gannets, we went after classic "safari fare" on this trip, including the famous members of the "Big 5" like this leopard. Ken Behrens.



In Kruger, we had the perfect vehicle, which allowed us close and unobstructed views of the mammals. Ken Behrens.





Another "Big 5"er, the African or Cape buffalo. Michael Jeffords.



We saw Africa's top predator many times in Kruger. Ken Behrens.









The common but quite handsome Egyptian Goose. Ken Behrens.



Cape Bunting at our lodge near the Tanqua Karoo. Ken Behrens.





A White-faced Duck in early morning light. Ken Behrens.





Yellow Bishop in Bontebok NP (left) and Cape Cormorants (right) nesting in Lambert's Bay. Left by Christian Sánchez and right by Ken Behrens.





Speckled Pigeon may look like a city pigeon at a distance, but is actually quite handsome. Ken Behrens.







Blue Cranes dancing in the Overberg; one of the top targets for Michael Jeffords, who took this photo!



Hottentot Teal at an excellent nature reserve near Johannesburg. Ken Behrens.







Burchell's Coual (left) and a scarab beetle (right). Left by Ken Behrens and right by Michael Jeffords.





Shelley's Francolin (left) is quite a scarce bird in Kruger NP. The similar Red-winged Francolin (right) is a bird of the high-elevation grasslands around Dullstroom. Ken Behrens.



Purple-crested Turaco in Kruger's Skukuza Camp. Ken Behrens.





The southern African endemic Crowned Cormorant. Ken Behrens.





Hippos are abundant in Kruger NP. Ken Behrens.



Red-crested Korhaans often walk very slowly, as if remaining invisible that way! Ken Behrens.





A sunset savannah landscape from Kruger. Christian Sánchez.



Rufous-eared Warbler, a prize from the Tanqua Karoo. Ken Behrens.







Southern Red Bishops were exploding with breeding plumage and behavior, for excellent photographic opportunities. Top photos by Ken Behrens; bottom photo by Michael Jeffords.







A Bontebok in the well-named Bontebok National Park. Ken Behrens.



The scenic beauty of the Cape Peninsula. Ken Behrens.





The beautiful endemic Black Harrier in Bontebok NP. Ken Behrens.







Wing-snapping Cisticola (left) and Cape Longclaw (right) near Dullstroom. Ken Behrens.



Cape Gannet on the West Coast. Ken Behrens.







Greater kudu (left) from Kruger, and Gray-backed Cisticola (right) from the Karoo. Ken Behrens.





There are flowers everywhere around Cape Town during the austral spring, making for wonderful photo backdrops. Photos by Ken Behrens.







Some lanky White-backed Vultures against the sunset in Kruger. Ken Behrens.



Mirrored Red-knobbed Coots. Ken Behrens.





A Bearded Woodpecker in Kruger's Satara camp, which is excellent for photography. Ken Behrens.



The flamingo spectacle at Strandfontein, near Cape Town. Ken Behrens.





Cape Cormorants nesting at Lambert's Bay. Ken Behrens.



Rufous-breasted Swallow is a hefty grassland swallow found in Kruger. Ken Behrens.





Southern Fiscal (left) in the Overberg and African Wattled Lapwing (right) near Dullstroom. We seek out subjects like these opportunistically, often using the car as a blind to photograph them. Ken Behrens.



An epic scene from Kruger: African buffalo march down to the Oliphants River to drink. Ken Behrens.





Southern Ground Hornbill is a broad-shouldered beast of a bird! Ken Behrens.



A couple of barbets from Kruger: Black-collared (left) and Crested (right). Ken Behrens.







Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill (left) and Burchell's Starling (right). Left by Ken Behrens and right by Michael Jeffords.



Buff-streaked Chat, a sharp Highveld endemic from Dullstroom. Ken Behrens.





The Lambert's Bay colony of Cape Gannets: a feast for the eyes and ears, and a photographer's dream. Photos by Ken Behrens.













A unique bar in the middle of nowhere in the Karoo (left). Southern Double-collared Sunbird (right). Left by Ken Behrens and right by Michael Jeffords.



Bearded Scrub-Robin in Skukuza Camp, Kruger NP. Ken Behrens.





It's uncommon to see a Black-backed Puffback actually puffed up like this! Ken Behrens.



A Malachite Sunbird on the Cape Peninsula. Ken Behrens.



# **BIG CAT EXTENSION**



White rhinos in Sabi Sands. Michael Jeffords.



Leopard crossing the Sabi River. Michael Jeffords.



## **BIG CAT EXTENSION**



Buffalo and clouds of dust, a classic African scene. Sue Post.



This lion had made a kill, which attracted White-backed Vultures. Michael Jeffords.





The subtle colors of the Hadada Ibis, in the eastern mountains. Ken Behrens.



Brown-hooded Kingfisher (left) and Cardinal Woodpecker, a couple of Kruger's over 400 species of birds. Left by Michael Jeffords and right by Ken Behrens.





The fishing village of Lambert's Bay, which plays host to a gannet colony. Ken Behrens.





A fynbos blue (left) from Bonebok NP. A Black Crake (right) dancing across the algae in Kruger. Left by Sue Post and right by Ken Behrens.





Wahlberg's Eagle over Satara Camp, Kruger NP (left). West Coast NP in bloom (right).

Left by Ken Behrens and right by Michael Jeffords.



Double Double-banded Sandgrouse! Ken Behrens.





We found a family of spot-necked otters at Marievale Bird Sanctuary. Ken Behrens.



African Goshawk in the mountains east of Johannesburg. Ken Behrens.







A couple birds on the wing: Lilac-breasted Roller (left) and African Harrier-Hawk (right). Sue Post.



White rhino and Red-billed Oxpecker. Sue Post.









Kelp Gull against the cold South Atlantic surf. Ken Behrens.







One of the leopards that graced our time in Kruger. Ken Behrens.



A couple of Bateleurs (left) and a Gray Go-away-bird (right). Left by Michael Jeffords; right by Ken Behrens.





Kruger's sjambokpod trees were in bloom, and attracted Brown-headed Parrots. Ken Behrens.



A family of Swainson's Francolins in the last of the late afternoon light. Ken Behrens.





The colors and characters of Cape Town: Helmeted Guineafowl (left) and Hartlaub's Gull (right). Ken Behrens.



The bird feeders at our lodge near the Tanqua Karoo attracted species like this Cape Weaver. Ken Behrens.





Incredible wildflower spectacle in the Tanqua Karoo. Ken Behrens.



We found some nesting Blacksmith Plovers at Kommetjie. Ken Behrens.





Marievale Bird Sanctuary is duck photography paradise. Here a Cape Shoveler. Ken Behrens.



Bontebok in the Highveld grassland near Dullstroom. Ken Behrens.





Gray Heron was one of many species that we photographed at Strandfontein. Ken Behrens.



Mrs. and Mr. Cape Sparrow. Ken Behrens.





Big-eared, big-eyed steenbok from Kruger. A favorite food of all predators! Ken Behrens.





Martial Eagle (left) and Water Thick-knees in Kruger NP. Ken Behrens.





Greater Flamingoes at Strandfontein. Ken Behrens.



Endemic Cape Grassbird (left) and a flock of Greater Crested Terns (right). Left by Christian Sánchez, right by Ken Behrens.







A couple of "Capers": Cape Canary (left) and Cape Francolin (right). Left by Christian Sánchez, right by Ken Behrens.



#### **BIRD LIST**

Taxonomy and nomenclature follow *The Clements Checklist of the Birds of the World 6.8* (including updates through 2013).

#### Photographed?

 $\star\star$  = Good or Excellent photo taken by at least one member of the group. The photos used in the trip report are all in this category.

 $\star$  = Poor to Fair photo taken by at least one member of the group. These are mostly "record shots", though some of them are quite decent.

G = species seen by guide only

H = species that was heard-only

Endemic / Introduced?

E = Endemic to Southern Africa

E\* = Endemic to Southern Africa, if split

NE = Near-endemic to Southern Africa

BE = Breeding endemic to Southern Africa

I = Introduced species

Conservation status

CR - Critically Endangered

EN - Endangered

V - Vulverable

NT - Near-threatened

	STRUTHIONIFORMES: Struthionidae		
	Ostrich	Struthio camelus	**
	ANSERIFORMES: Anatidae		
	White-faced Whistling-Duck	Dendrocygna viduata	**
	White-backed Duck	Thalassornis leuconotus	
	Egyptian Goose	Alopochen aegyptiaca	**
Е	South African Shelduck	Tadorna cana	
	Spur-winged Goose	Plectropterus gambensis	*
	Yellow-billed Duck	Anas undulata	**
NE	Cape Shoveler	Anas smithii	**
	Red-billed Duck (Teal)	Anas erythrorhyncha	
	Hottentot Teal	Anas hottentota	**
	Cape Teal	Anas capensis	**
	Southern Pochard	Netta erythrophthalma	*
	GALLIFORMES: Numididae		
	Helmeted Guineafowl	Numida meleagris	**
	GALLIFORMES: Phasianidae		
	Crested Francolin	Francolinus sephaena	**
	Red-winged Francolin	Francolinus levaillantii	**
Е	Gray-winged Francolin	Francolinus africanus	**
	Shelley's Francolin	Francolinus shelleyi	**
Е	Cape Francolin (Spurfowl)	Francolinus capensis	**
NE	Natal Francolin (Spurfowl)	Francolinus natalensis	**
	Swainson's Francolin (Spurfowl)	Francolinus swainsonii	**
	Common Quail	Coturnix coturnix	Н



		PODICIPEDIFORMES: Podicipedidae		
		Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis	**
		Great Crested Grebe	Podiceps cristatus	*
		Eared (Black-necked) Grebe	Podiceps nigricollis	**
		PHOENICOPTERIFORMES:		
		Phoenicopteridae		
		Greater Flamingo	Phoenicopterus roseus	**
	NT	Lesser Flamingo	Phoenicopterus minor	**
		SPHENISCIFORMES: Spheniscidae		
Е	EN	Jackass (African) Penguin	Spheniscus demersus	**
		PROCELLARIIFORMES: Procellariidae		
	V	White-chinned Petrel	Procellaria aequinoctialis	*
		CICONIIFORMES: Ciconiidae		
		African Openbill	Anastomus lamelligerus	*
		Abdim's Stork	Ciconia abdimii	
		Woolly-necked Stork	Ciconia episcopus	*
		Saddle-billed Stork	Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis	*
		Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumenifer	
		Yellow-billed Stork	Mycteria ibis	*
		SULIFORMES: Sulidae		
BE	V	Cape Gannet	Morus capensis	**
		SULIFORMES: Phalacrocoracidae		
		Great (White-breasted) Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo (lucidus)	**
NE	EN	Cape Cormorant	Phalacrocorax capensis	**
Е	EN	Bank Cormorant	Phalacrocorax neglectus	*
		Long-tailed Cormorant	Phalacrocorax africanus	**
Е	NT	Crowned Cormorant	Phalacrocorax coronatus	**
		SULIFORMES: Anhingidae		
		African Darter	Anhinga rufa	**
		PELECANIFORMES: Pelecanidae		
		Great White Pelican	Pelecanus onocrotalus	**
		PELECANIFORMES: Scopidae		
		Hamerkop	Scopus umbretta	**
		PELECANIFORMES: Ardeidae		
		Gray Heron	Ardea cinerea	**
		Black-headed Heron	Ardea melanocephala	**
		Goliath Heron	Ardea goliath	**
		Purple Heron	Ardea purpurea	*
		Great Egret	Ardea alba	
		Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	**
		Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis	**
		Squacco Heron	Ardeola ralloides	**
		Striated Heron	Butorides striata	
		Black-crowned Night-Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	**
		PELECANIFORMES: Threskiornithidae		
		Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus	*
		(African) Sacred Ibis	Threskiornis aethiopicus	**



Е	V	(Southern) Bald Ibis	Geronticus calvus	
		Hadada Ibis	Bostrychia hagedash	**
		African Spoonbill	Platalea alba	**
		ACCIPITRIFORMES: Sagittariidae		
	V	Secretary-bird	Sagittarius serpentarius	*
		ACCIPITRIFORMES: Accipitridae		
		Black-shouldered Kite	Elanus caeruleus	*
		African Harrier-Hawk	Polyboroides typus	**
	V	White-headed Vulture	Trigonoceps occipitalis	**
	V	Lappet-faced Vulture	Torgos tracheliotus	
	EN	Hooded Vulture	Necrosyrtes monachus	**
	EN	White-backed Vulture	Gyps africanus	**
	NT	Bateleur	Terathopius ecaudatus	**
		Black-breasted Snake-Eagle	Circaetus pectoralis	*
		Brown Snake-Eagle	Circaetus cinereus	*
	VU	Martial Eagle	Polemaetus bellicosus	**
		Wahlberg's Eagle	Hieraaetus wahlbergi	**
		Booted Eagle	Hieraaetus pennatus	
		Tawny Eagle	Aquila rapax	**
		Verreaux's Eagle	Aquila verreauxii	*
		African Hawk-Eagle	Aquila spilogaster	*
NE		Pale Chanting-Goshawk	Melierax canorus	**
		Gabar Goshawk	Micronisus gabar	
		African Marsh-Harrier	Circus ranivorus	
Е	V	Black Harrier	Circus maurus	**
		African Goshawk	Accipiter tachiro	**
		Little Sparrowhawk	Accipiter minullus	
		Black Goshawk	Accipiter melanoleucus	
		Black (Yellow-billed) Kite	Milvus migrans (parasitus)	*
		African Fish-Eagle	Haliaeetus vocifer	**
		Jackal Buzzard	Buteo rufofuscus	**
		OTIDIFORMES: Otididae		
	NT	Kori Bustard	Ardeotis kori	**
	NT	Stanley Bustard	Neotis denhami	*
		Karoo Bustard (Korhaan)	Eupodotis vigorsii	*
		Red-crested Bustard (Korhaan)	Eupodotis ruficrista	**
Е	VU	(Southern) Black Bustard (Korhaan)	Eupodotis afra	
		GRUIFORMES: Rallidae		
		African Rail	Rallus caerulescens	Н
		Black Crake	Amaurornis flavirostra	**
		Purple Swamphen	Porphyrio porphyrio	
		Eurasian Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus	**
		Red-knobbed Coot	Fulica cristata	**
		GRUIFORMES: Gruidae		
Е	V	Blue Crane	Anthropoides paradiseus	**
		CHARADRIIFORMES: Burhinidae		



		Water Thick-knee	Burhinus vermiculatus	**
		CHARADRIIFORMES: Recurvirostridae		
		Black-winged Stilt	Himantopus himantopus	**
		Pied Avocet	Recurvirostra avosetta	**
		CHARADRIIFORMES: Haematopodidae		
NE	NT	African Oystercatcher	Haematopus moquini	**
		CHARADRIIFORMES: Charadriidae		
		Black-bellied Plover	Pluvialis squatarola	
		Blacksmith Plover	Vanellus armatus	**
		White-headed Lapwing	Vanellus albiceps	*
		Black-winged Lapwing	Vanellus melanopterus	
		Crowned Lapwing	Vanellus coronatus	*
		(African) Wattled Lapwing	Vanellus senegallus	**
		Three-banded Plover	Charadrius tricollaris	*
		White-fronted Plover	Charadrius marginatus	**
		CHARADRIIFORMES: Jacanidae		
		African Jacana	Actophilornis africanus	**
		CHARADRIIFORMES: Scolopacidae		
		Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos	
		Common Greenshank	Tringa nebularia	
		Wood Sandpiper	Tringa glareola	*
		Whimbrel	Numenius phaeopus	
		Ruff	Calidris pugnax	**
		Curlew Sandpiper	Calidris ferruginea	
		Little Stint	Calidris minuta	*
		CHARADRIIFORMES: Glareolidae		
		Collared Pratincole	Glareola pratincola	
		CHARADRIIFORMES: Laridae		
		Gray-hooded Gull	Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus	*
		Hartlaub's Gull	Chroicocephalus hartlaubii	**
		Kelp Gull	Larus dominicanus	**
		Caspian Tern	Hydroprogne caspia	
		Whiskered Tern	Chlidonias hybrida	**
		Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	*
		Great Crested Tern	Thalasseus bergii	**
		Sandwich Tern	Thalasseus sandvicensis	*
		PTEROCLIFORMES: Pteroclidae		
NE		Namaqua Sandgrouse	Pterocles namaqua	*
NE		Double-banded Sandgrouse	Pterocles bicinctus	**
		COLUMBIFORMES: Columbidae		
		Rock Pigeon	Columba livia	**
		Speckled Pigeon	Columba guinea	**
		(African) Mourning Collared-Dove	Streptopelia decipiens	**
		Red-eyed Dove	Streptopelia semitorquata	*
		Ring-necked (Cape Turtle-) Dove	Streptopelia capicola	**
		Laughing Dove	Streptopelia senegalensis	**



	Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove	Turtur chalcospilos	**
	Namaqua Dove	Oena capensis	
	African Green-Pigeon	Treron calvus	*
	CUCULIFORMES: Musophagidae		
	Purple-crested Turaco	Tauraco porphyreolophus	**
	Gray Go-away-bird	Corythaixoides concolor	**
	CUCULIFORMES: Cuculidae		
	Klaas's Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx klaas	Н
E*	White-browed (Burchell's) Coucal	Centropus superciliosus (burchelli)	**
	STRIGIFORMES: Strigidae		
	African Scops-Owl	Otus senegalensis	
	Spotted Eagle-Owl	Bubo africanus	*
	Verreaux's Eagle-Owl	Bubo lacteus	*
	Pearl-spotted Owlet	Glaucidium perlatum	*
	CAPRIMULGIFORMES: Caprimulgidae		
	Nightjar sp.	Caprimulgus sp.	G
	APODIFORMES: Apodidae		
	Alpine Swift	Apus melba	**
	African Swift	Apus barbatus	*
	Little Swift	Apus affinis	**
	White-rumped Swift	Apus caffer	**
	African Palm-Swift	Cypsiurus parvus	
	COLIIFORMES: Coliidae		
Е	White-backed Mousebird	Colius colius	
	Red-faced Mousebird	Urocolius indicus	**
	CORACIIFORMES: Alcedinidae		
	Malachite Kingfisher	Corythornis cristatus	
	Brown-hooded Kingfisher	Halcyon albiventris	**
	Giant Kingfisher	Megaceryle maximus	*
	Pied Kingfisher	Ceryle rudis	**
	CORACIIFORMES: Meropidae		
	White-fronted Bee-eater	Merops bullockoides	*
	Little Bee-eater	Merops pusillus	
	CORACIIFORMES: Coraciidae		
	Lilac-breasted Roller	Coracias caudatus	**
	Rufous-crowned Roller	Coracias naevius	**
	CORACIIFORMES: Upupidae		
	Eurasian (African) Hoopoe	Upupa epops (africana)	**
	CORACIIFORMES: Phoeniculidae		
	Green Woodhoopoe	Phoeniculus purpureus	**
	Common Scimitar-bill	Rhinopomastus cyanomelas	*
	CORACIIFORMES: Bucerotidae		
	Southern Red-billed Hornbill	Tockus rufirostris	**
	Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill	Tockus leucomelas	**
	Crowned Hornbill	Tockus alboterminatus	*
	African Gray Hornbill	Tockus nasutus	**



	CORACIIFORMES: Bucorvidae		
V	Southern Ground-Hornbill	Bucorvus leadbeateri	**
	PICIFORMES: Lybiidae		
	Crested Barbet	Trachyphonus vaillantii	**
	Black-collared Barbet	Lybius torquatus	**
	PICIFORMES: Indicatoridae		
	Wahlberg's Honeyguide	Prodotiscus regulus	
	PICIFORMES: Picidae		
	Golden-tailed Woodpecker	Campethera abingoni	
	Cardinal Woodpecker	Dendropicos fuscescens	**
	Bearded Woodpecker	Dendropicos namaquus	**
	Olive Woodpecker	Dendropicos griseocephalus	
	FALCONIFORMES: Falconidae		
	Eurasian (Rock) Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus (rupicolus)	**
	Lanner Falcon	Falco biarmicus	
	PSITTACIFORMES: Psittacidae		
	Brown-headed Parrot	Poicephalus cryptoxanthus	**
	PASSERIFORMES: Platysteiridae		
Е	Cape Batis	Batis capensis	*
	Chinspot Batis	Batis molitor	**
NE	Pririt Batis	Batis pririt	*
	PASSERIFORMES: Vangidae		
	White Helmetshrike	Prionops plumatus	**
	Retz's Helmetshrike	Prionops retzii	*
	PASSERIFORMES: Malaconotidae		
	Brubru	Nilaus afer	*
	Black-backed Puffback	Dryoscopus cubla	**
	Black-crowned Tchagra	Tchagra senegalus	**
	Brown-crowned Tchagra	Tchagra australis	
Е	Southern Boubou	Laniarius ferrugineus	*
Е	Bokmakierie	Telophorus zeylonus	**
	Sulphur(orange)-breasted Bushshrike	Telophorus sulfureopectus	**
	Gray-headed Bushshrike	Malaconotus blanchoti	*
	PASSERIFORMES: Campephagidae		
	Black Cuckooshrike	Campephaga flava	Н
	PASSERIFORMES: Laniidae		
	Southern (Common) Fiscal	Lanius collaris	**
	Magpie Shrike	Corvinella melanoleuca	**
NE	(Southern) White-crowned Shrike	Eurocephalus anguitimens	**
	PASSERIFORMES: Oriolidae		
	African Black-headed Oriole	Oriolus larvatus	**
	PASSERIFORMES: Dicruridae		
	Fork-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus adsimilis	**
	PASSERIFORMES: Monarchidae		
	African Paradise-Flycatcher	Terpsiphone viridis	*
	PASSERIFORMES: Corvidae		



	Cape Crow	Corvus capensis	
	Pied Crow	Corvus albus	*
	White-necked Raven	Corvus albicollis	*
	PASSERIFORMES: Chaetopidae		
Е	Cape Rockjumper	Chaetops frenatus	
	PASSERIFORMES: Alaudidae		
	Rufous-naped Lark	Mirafra africana	
Е	Cape Clapper Lark	Mirafra apiata	
NE	Sabota Lark	Calendulauda sabota	**
Е	Karoo Lark	Calendulauda albescens	
NE	Spike-heeled Lark	Chersomanes albofasciata	**
Е	Agulhas (Long-billed) Lark	Certhilauda brevirostris	*
Е	Eastern Long-billed Lark	Certhilauda semitorquata	**
	Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark	Eremopterix leucotis	*
	Red-capped Lark	Calandrella cinerea	
Е	Large-billed Lark	Galerida magnirostris	**
	PASSERIFORMES: Hirundinidae		
	Plain (Brown-throated) Martin	Riparia paludicola	*
	Banded Martin	Riparia cincta	
	Rock Martin	Ptyonoprogne fuligula	**
	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	
	White-throated Swallow	Hirundo albigularis	**
	Wire-tailed Swallow	Hirundo smithii	*
	Pearl-breasted Swallow	Hirundo dimidiata	
	Greater Striped-Swallow	Cecropis cucullata	
	Lesser Striped-Swallow	Cecropis abyssinica	**
	Rufous-chested (Red-breasted) Swallow	Cecropis semirufa	**
	Mosque Swallow	Cecropis senegalensis	*
	Black Sawwing	Psalidoprocne pristoptera	*
	Gray-rumped Swallow	Pseudhirundo griseopyga	*
	PASSERIFORMES: Stenostiridae		
E	Fairy Flycatcher	Stenostira scita	Н
	PASSERIFORMES: Paridae		
	Southern Black-Tit	Melaniparus niger	*
	PASSERIFORMES: Pycnonotidae		
	Sombre Greenbul	Andropadus importunus	**
	Yellow-bellied Greenbul	Chlorocichla flaviventris	
	Terrestrial Brownbul	Phyllastrephus terrestris	*
	Common (Dark-capped) Bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus	**
Е	Cape Bulbul	Pycnonotus capensis	**
	PASSERIFORMES: Macrosphenidae		
	Cape (Long-billed) Crombec	Sylvietta rufescens	*
Е	Cape Grassbird	Sphenoeacus afer	**
E	Victorin's Warbler	Cryptillas victorini	Н
	PASSERIFORMES: Acrocephalidae		
	Lesser Swamp-Warbler	Acrocephalus gracilirostris	**



	PASSERIFORMES: Locustellidae		
	Little Rush-Warbler	Bradypterus baboecala	*
	PASSERIFORMES: Cisticolidae		
	Bar-throated Apalis	Apalis thoracica	*
	Yellow-breasted Apalis	Apalis flavida	*
	Green-backed Camaroptera	Camaroptera brachyura	**
	Miombo (Stierling's) Wren-Warbler	Calamonastes undosus (stierlingi)	
Е	Rufous-eared Warbler	Malcorus pectoralis	**
	Rattling Cisticola	Cisticola chiniana	*
NE	Red-headed (Grey-backed) Cisticola	Cisticola subruficapilla	**
	Tinkling (Levaillant's) Cisticola	Cisticola tinniens	*
	Piping Cisticola (Neddicky)	Cisticola fulvicapilla	**
	Zitting Cisticola	Cisticola juncidis	
	Desert Cisticola	Cisticola aridulus	
NE	Cloud Cisticola	Cisticola textrix	*
	Wing-snapping Cisticola	Cisticola ayresii	**
	Tawny-flanked Prinia	Prinia subflava	**
Е	Karoo Prinia	Prinia maculosa	**
	Burnt-neck Eremomela	Eremomela usticollis	*
	PASSERIFORMES: Sylvidae		
E	Layard's Warbler (Tit-Babbler)	Sylvia layardi	
NE	Rufous-vented Warbler (Chestnut-v T-Bab.)	Sylvia subcaerulea	Н
	PASSERIFORMES: Zosteropidae		
	Cape White-eye	Zosterops pallidus	**
	PASSERIFORMES: Leiothrichidae		
	Arrow-marked Babbler	Turdoides jardineii	**
	PASSERIFORMES: Promeropidae		
Е	Cape Sugarbird	Promerops cafer	**
	PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae		
	Pale Flycatcher	Bradornis pallidus	**
	Southern Black-Flycatcher	Melaenornis pammelaina	*
Е	Fiscal Flycatcher	Sigelus silens	*
	Dusky-brown (African Dusky) Flycatcher	Muscicapa adusta	**
	Ashy Flycatcher	Muscicapa caerulescens	**
	Gray Tit-Flycatcher	Myioparus plumbeus	
Е	Karoo Scrub-Robin	Cercotrichas coryphaeus	**
	Bearded Scrub-Robin	Cercotrichas quadrivirgata	**
	Red-backed (White-browed) Scrub-Robin	Cercotrichas leucophrys	**
	Cape Robin-Chat	Cossypha caffra	**
Е	White-throated Robin-Chat	Cossypha humeralis	**
	White-browed Robin-Chat	Cossypha heuglini	**
	Red-capped Robin-Chat	Cossypha natalensis	*
Е	Chorister Robin-Chat	Cossypha dichroa	*
Е	Sentinel Rock-Thrush	Monticola explorator	**
	African Stonechat	Saxicola torquatus	**
E	Buff-streaked Bushchat	Saxicola bifasciatus	**



		Mocking Cliff-Chat	Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris	*
NE		Karoo Chat	Cercomela schlegelii	**
		Familiar Chat	Cercomela familiaris	**
NE		Mountain Wheatear	Oenanthe monticola	
		Capped Wheatear	Oenanthe pileata	**
		PASSERIFORMES: Turdidae		
		Kurrichane Thrush	Turdus libonyana	*
		Olive Thrush	Turdus olivaceus	*
E		Karoo Thrush	Turdus smithi	*
		PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae		
I		Common Myna	Acridotheres tristis	
I		European Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	*
		Wattled Starling	Creatophora cinerea	*
		Cape Glossy-Starling	Lamprotornis nitens	**
		Greater Blue-eared Glossy-Starling	Lamprotornis chalybaeus	**
NE		Burchell's Glossy-Starling	Lamprotornis australis	**
Е		African Pied Starling	Spreo bicolor	**
		Red-winged Starling	Onychognathus morio	**
		PASSERIFORMES: Buphagidae		
		Red-billed Oxpecker	Buphagus erythrorhynchus	**
		Yellow-billed Oxpecker	Buphagus africanus	**
		PASSERIFORMES: Nectariniidae		
		Collared Sunbird	Hedydipna collaris	*
Е		Orange-breasted Sunbird	Anthobaphes violacea	**
		Scarlet-chested Sunbird	Chalcomitra senegalensis	*
		Malachite Sunbird	Nectarinia famosa	**
Е		Southern Double-collared Sunbird	Cinnyris chalybeus	**
Е		Greater Double-collared Sunbird	Cinnyris afer	*
		Mariqua (Marico) Sunbird	Cinnyris mariquensis	**
		White-breasted Sunbird	Cinnyris talatala	**
		PASSERIFORMES: Motacillidae		
		Cape Wagtail	Motacilla capensis	**
		African Pied Wagtail	Motacilla aguimp	*
		African Pipit	Anthus cinnamomeus	**
Е	V	Yellow-breasted Pipit	Hemimacronyx chloris	
Е		Orange-throated (Cape) Longclaw	Macronyx capensis	**
		PASSERIFORMES: Emberizidae		
		Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	Emberiza tahapisi	
NE		Cape Bunting	Emberiza capensis	**
		Golden-breasted Bunting	Emberiza flaviventris	**
		PASSERIFORMES: Fringillidae		
Е		Cape Siskin	Pseudochloroptila totta	*
Е		Cape Canary	Serinus canicollis	**
		Yellow-fronted Canary	Serinus mozambicus	*
Е		Forest Canary	Serinus scotops	
		Black-throated Canary	Serinus atrogularis	**



NE	Yellow Canary	Serinus flaviventris	**
NE	White-throated Canary	Serinus albogularis	**
Е	Protea Canary	Serinus leucopterus	
	PASSERIFORMES: Passeridae		
ı	House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	**
NE	Cape Sparrow	Passer melanurus	**
	Southern Gray-headed Sparrow	Passer diffusus	*
	Yellow-throated Petronia	Petronia superciliaris	*
	PASSERIFORMES: Ploceidae		
	Red-billed Buffalo-Weaver	Bubalornis niger	**
	Red-headed Weaver	Anaplectes rubriceps	*
	Spectacled Weaver	Ploceus ocularis	**
Е	Cape Weaver	Ploceus capensis	**
	Lesser Masked-Weaver	Ploceus intermedius	*
	Southern Masked-Weaver	Ploceus velatus	**
	Village Weaver	Ploceus cucullatus	**
	Red-billed Quelea	Quelea quelea	
	Red Bishop	Euplectes orix	**
	Yellow Bishop	Euplectes capensis	**
	White-winged Widowbird	Euplectes albonotatus	
	Fan-tailed Widowbird	Euplectes axillaris	
	Long-tailed Widowbird	Euplectes progne	**
	PASSERIFORMES: Estrildidae		
Е	Swee Waxbill	Coccopygia melanotis	*
	Common Waxbill	Estrilda astrild	**
	Blue-breasted Cordonbleu (Waxbill)	Uraeginthus angolensis	*
NE	Violet-eared Waxbill	Granatina granatina	
	Green-winged Pytilia	Pytilia melba	*
	Red-billed Firefinch	Lagonosticta senegala	**
	Jameson's Firefinch	Lagonosticta rhodopareia	*
	Bronze Mannikin	Spermestes cucullatus	**
	PASSERIFORMES: Viduidae		
	Eastern (Long-tailed) Paradise-Whydah	Vidua paradisaea	



A few more Jackass Penguins... why not? Ken Behrens.



### **MAMMAL LIST**

Taxonomy and nomenclature follow *The Kingdon Field Guide to African Mammals* (2003) by Jonathan Kingdon.

		Cercopithecidae: Cheek-pouched		
		Monkeys		
NE		Chacma Baboon	Papio ursinus	**
		Vervet Monkey	Cercopithecus aethiops	**
		Equidae: Horses		
		Burchell's Zebra	Equus burchellii	**
		Rhinocerotidae: Rhinoceroses		
	NT	White Rhino	Ceratotherium simum	**
		Hippopotamidae: Hippopotamuses		
	V	Hippopotamus	Hippopotamus amphibius	**
		Suidae: Pigs		
		Warthog	Phacochoerus aethiopicus	**
		Giraffidae: Giraffes		
		Giraffe	Giraffa camelopardalis	**
		Bovidae: Horned Ungulates		
		African (Cape) Buffalo	Syncerus caffer	**
		Greater Kudu	Tragelaphus strepsiceros	**
		Nyala	Tragelaphus angasii	**
		Bushbuck	Tragelaphus scriptus	**
		Common Waterbuck	Kobus ellipsiprymnus	**
NE		Springbok	Antidorcas marsupialis	**
Е		Grey Rhebok	Pelea capreolus	*
		Sharpe's Grysbok	Raphicerus sharpei	*
		Blue Wildebeest	Connochaetes taurinus	**
Е		Black Wildebeest	Connochaetes gnou	
Е		Bontebok	Damaliscus p. pygargus	**
Е		Blesbok	Damaliscus p. phillipsi	**
		Impala	Aepyceros melampus	**
		Klipspringer	Oreotragus oreotragus	*
		Steenbok	Raphicerus campestris	**
		Bush (Common) Duiker	Sylvicapra grimmia	**
		Elephantidae: Elephants		
	V	(African) Elephant	Loxodonta africana	**
		Procavidae: Hyraxes		
		Cape Rock Hyrax	Procavia capensis	*
		Canidae: Dogs & allies		
		Black-backed Jackal	Canis mesomelas	*
	EN	Wild Dog	Lycaon pictus	**
		Mustelidae: Mustelids		
		Spot-necked Otter	Hydrictis maculicollis	**
		Herpestidae: Mongooses		
		Small (Cape) Grey Mongoose	Galerella pulverulenta	



		Slender Mongoose	Galerella sanguinea	
		Dwarf Mongoose	Helogale parvula	**
NE		Yellow Mongoose	Cynictis penicillata	**
		Marsh Mongoose	Atilax paludinosus	
		Banded Mongoose	Mungos mungo	*
		Hyaenidae: Hyaenas		
		Spotted Hyena	Crocuta crocuta	**
		Felidae: Cats		
	V	Lion	Panthera leo	**
	NT	Leopard	Panthera pardus	**
	V	Cheetah	Acinonyx jubatus	*
		Otariidae: Sea Lions		
NE		Cape Fur Seal	Arctocephalus p. pusillus	*
		Muridae: Rats & Mice		
		Four-Striped Grass Mouse	Rhabdomys pumilio	**
		Sciuridae: Squirrels		
		Tree (Smith's Bush)Squirrel	Paraxerus cepapi	**
		Grey Squirrel	Sciurus carolinensis	
		Lagomorpha: Hares		
Е		Scrub Hare	Lepus saxatilis	**



Nyala is a rather uncommon resident of Kruger NP, so we were happy to have a chance to photograph a small group of females and young males. Ken Behrens.



### **REPTILE LIST**

Crocodylidae: Crocodiles		
Nile Crocodile	Crocodylus niloticus	**
Agamidae: Agamas		
Ground Agama	Agama aculeata	
Southern Rock Agama	Agama atra	**
Southern Tree Agama	Acanthocercus atricollis	**
Geckonidae: Geckos		
Moreau's Tropical House Gecko	Hemidactylus mabouia	*
Cordylidae: Girdled Lizards		
Black Girdled Lizard	Cordylus niger	**
Lacertidae: True Lizards		
Karoo Sandveld Lizard	Nucras livida	*
Scincidae: Skinks		
Cape Skink	Trachylepis capensis	*
Striped Skink	Trachylepis striata	**
Five-lined (Rainbow) Skink	Trachylepis quinquetaeniata	**
Colubridae: Colubrid Snakes		
Mole Snake	Pseudaspis cana	**
Stripe-bellied Sand Snake	Psammophis subtaeniatus	**
Testudinidae: Tortoises		
Leopard Tortoise	Geochelone pardalis	**
Angulate Tortoise	Chersina angulata	**
Pelomedusidae: African Side-necked		
Turtles		
Marsh Terrapin	Pelomedusa subrufa	**



Rainbow or five-lined skink in Kruger NP. Ken Behrens.

