



**TROPICAL  
BIRDING** 

**MADAGASCAR:  
THE WONDERS OF 'THE  
EIGHTH CONTINENT'  
A Tropical Birding Set Departure**

**October 31 - November 19, 2010  
Guide: Ken Behrens**

**All photos taken by Ken Behrens**

## **TOUR SUMMARY**

This was an extremely successful trip, one of the best that Tropical Birding has ever run. We racked up 199 species of birds, including every Malagasy endemic and near-endemic save a handful of extremely rare and range-restricted species that are not targeted by this tour. We saw every member of three endemic Malagasy families: mesites, asities and ground-rollers. The last family is particularly spectacular... from the long-tailed and baby blue-marked Long-tailed Ground-Roller of the spiny forest to the exquisite Scaly and three other species of the humid eastern forests... you can make a case for any of the 5 as the 'best' of the ground-rollers, and by extension one of the world's coolest birds! We did incredibly well on vangas, seeing every Malagasy species save one. The obvious highlight here was the mind-blowing Helmet Vanga, with its enormous electric blue bill, another of the best birds on earth. We also enjoyed the rare Bernier's Vanga, enormous pied Hook-billed, cone-billed Van Dam's, and many more.

Mammals were just as spectacular. We saw 32 species, of which an astounding 26 were lemurs! These ranged from several tiny mouse-lemurs up to the world's largest lemur, the indri, a stub-tailed black-and-white teddy bear that almost sounds like an arboreal whale! On the Masoala peninsula, we encountered the red panda-like red ruffed lemur, even seeing it in rain forest trees that hung out above the surf along the beach, a testament to the pristine nature of this beautiful

place. A close encounter with a feisty lowland streaked tenrec was another highlight, and much less expected than most of our lemur sightings.

Our tour started with the western endemics pre-trip that visited Majunga and Ankarafantsika National Park. This national park is the bastion of several of Madagascar's most range-restricted species, including Madagascar Fish-Eagle, White-breasted Mesite, Schlegel's Asity, and Van Dam's Vanga, all of which we saw very well. A boat trip on Majunga's Betsiboka delta brought us to close quarters with extremely rare Madagascar Sacred Ibis and Bernier's Teal, plus a host of shorebirds and other waterbirds. A flight back to the capital concluded this short but productive extension.

The full group gathered in Tana for the start of the main tour, a trip through Madagascar's core birding areas. We started in the far southwest in the spiny forest, one of the strangest biomes on the face of the earth. In the baobabs and octopus trees of this alien environment, we found a range of vangas, Malagasy warblers, and couas (an odd Malagasy offshoot of the cuckoo family), plus the incomparable Long-tailed Ground-Roller and Subdesert Mesite. Time spent on coastal mudflats paid off with a nice haul of terns and shorebirds, including the rare Madagascar Plover and unique Crab

Plover. A boat trip to the island of Nosy Ve and its Red-tailed Tropicbird colony was a special highlight, like a day in paradise.

As we headed inland, we birded Zombitse National Park, where we saw rare Appert's Tetraka, hulking Giant Coua, and much more. A



**Long-tailed Ground-Roller is the only member of this endemic family that is found away from the eastern rainforest.**

night in Isalo was much enjoyed for its scenic value, not to mention excellent birding, with White-browed Owl the top prize. A stop at a little community-run park gave us intimate encounters with a whole troop of ring-tailed lemurs.



**Ring-tailed lemur. One of the great things about doing a Madagascar tour at this time of the year is that most of the lemurs have babies.**

With great excitement, we finally crested the ‘continental divide’, and arrived at Ranomafana National Park, our first rainforest site. This biome is Madagascar’s most diverse, and supports the majority of its most sought-after birds. In our first afternoon, we soaked in the gorgeous Pitta-like Ground-Roller, and things didn’t slow down from there. A hike into higher elevations the next morning turned up the glittering Yellow-bellied Sunbird-Asity, hulking Pollen’s Vanga, and glorious Rufous-headed Ground-Roller, just to name a few. The next day, we focused on mammals as much as birds, which paid off with the only recently discovered golden bamboo-lemur and striking Milne-Edwards’ sifaka, among others.

The final stop on the main tour was Analamazaotra National Park. This was the perfect place to fill in the last few holes on our list. The most notable of these ‘holes’ were Scaly and Short-legged

Ground-Rollers, which we quickly found with the help of our incredibly skilled local guide. A lot of time spent chasing Red-breasted Coua and Madagascar Crested Ibis finally paid off when everybody in the group enjoyed good looks at these notoriously skulky beauties. In addition to the famous indri, the mammalian highlight of this area was the big and bold black-and-white ruffed lemur.

Although most people had opted out of the 'Helmet Vanga extension' at the end of the trip, those who added this segment were richly rewarded. Far from being anticlimactic, this extension was the highlight of the tour in many ways. Of course there are the marquee birds and mammals like the namesake Helmet Vanga and beautiful red ruffed-lemur, but the thing that makes this extension really special is the setting... a pristine rainforest set on a beautiful beach with rich coral reefs offshore. There are very, very few places left on earth like this, as coastal areas are usually the first to be ravaged. The odd scheduling of the extension, necessitated by flight schedules, allowed a couple of days in the Anjozorobe area at the end.

Here we enjoyed yet another



**The size of the huge Short-legged Ground-Roller always surprises people seeing it for the first time.**

beautiful and wild place, squeezed out a couple of new birds, and enjoyed visiting with the almost all-black indris that are found in this area.



**Madagascar Cuckoo-Rollers patrol the airspace over much of the country.**

Although birds and mammals are the focus of this tour, there are lots of other groups that amaze visitors and enrich their experience on the island. We racked up over a dozen species of chameleons, ranging from midgets only a couple of cm long up to the largest species in the world. We also encountered beautiful frogs galore, glowing green day geckos, astoundingly cryptic leaf-tailed geckos, an array of other striking lizards, weird and wonderful insects aplenty, ancient and giant baobabs, and much more. The human cultures of Madagascar also feature prominently on this

tour. The people here are just as unique and 'endemic' as the wild things. From beautiful two-story, red brick houses, to medieval-looking oxcarts with wooden wheels, to endless landscapes of tawny hills and emerald-green valleys encrusted with rice paddies, there was always something to observe and marvel at as we traveled around this country. Madagascar is an utterly unique place, and fully deserving of its nickname of 'the 8 eighth continent'.

One final thing to note about this tour, which quite surprised the participants, was the ease and luxury with which you can travel around Madagascar. Most of the hotels are good, if not downright posh. They range from chalets set right on the beach adjacent a beautiful swimming pool to a rainforest lodge nestled in misty hills with views of the forest in every direction. The food offered at these lodges is superlative, a delicious mix of French and Malagasy that most people do not expect in a country like this.



**Collared Nightjar is an enigmatic endemic bird whose calls are still unknown.**

## ITINERARY

### *Western Endemics Extension (pre-trip)*

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>October 31</b> | Flight from Tana to Majunga. Drive to Ankarafantsika National Park. |
| <b>November 1</b> | Ankarafantsika National Park.                                       |
| <b>November 2</b> | Ankarafantsika to Majunga.  |
| <b>November 3</b> | Boat trip to Betsiboka Delta.                                       |
| <b>November 4</b> | Flight from Majunga to Tana.  |

### *Main Tour*

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>November 5</b>  | Flight from Tana to Tulear. Drive to Ifaty.                    |
| <b>November 6</b>  | Ifaty, spiny desert.   |
| <b>November 7</b>  | Ifaty to Tulear.   |
| <b>November 8</b>  | Tulear area.   |
| <b>November 9</b>  | Boat trip to Nosy Ve.  |
| <b>November 10</b> | Tulear to Zombitse National Park to Isalo.                     |
| <b>November 11</b> | Isalo to Ranomafana National Park.                             |
| <b>November 12</b> | Ranomafana National Park.                                      |
| <b>November 13</b> | Ranomafana National Park.                                      |
| <b>November 14</b> | Ranomafana to Antsirabe.                                       |
| <b>November 15</b> | Antsirabe to Analamazaotra National Park.                      |
| <b>November 16</b> | Analamazaotra National Park.                                   |
| <b>November 17</b> | Analamazaotra National Park. (Departure for Masoala Extension) |
| <b>November 18</b> | Analamazaotra National Park.                                   |
| <b>November 19</b> | Analamazaotra to Tana.   |
| <b>November 20</b> | Departure from Tana.   |

### *Helmet Vanga Extension (flight schedules made it necessary for this extension to start on Nov 18)*

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>[November 18]</b> | Flight from Tana to Maroantsetra.                      |
| <b>[November 19]</b> | Boat from Maroantsetra to Masoala.                     |
| <b>November 20</b>   | Masoala.   |
| <b>November 21</b>   | Boat from Masoala to Maroantsetra.                     |
| <b>November 22</b>   | Flight from Maroantsetra to Tana. Drive to Anjozorobe. |
| <b>November 23</b>   | Anjozorobe.  |
| <b>November 24</b>   | Anjozorobe to Tana.                                    |
| <b>November 25</b>   | Departure from Tana.                                   |



Crab Plovers on Nosy Ve, a paradisiacal little island that we visited by boat on November 9.

## PHOTO GALLERY

*Follows chronology of trip*



Two fantastic black-and-white vangas that we first enjoyed at Ankarafantsika National Park. Both are using their huge bills to good effect. On the left is Sickie-billed, and on the right Hook-billed Vanga.



A few Harlequin Quail in the Ankarafantsika area were a nice surprise.





On our Betsiboka boat trip, we managed to see the rare crowned sifaka.



**On the Betsiboka, we saw Madagascar Sacred Ibis (left), while the Ifaty area held Madagascar Plover (right). Both birds have become extremely rare, with no more than a few 100 of each left in the world.**



**We enjoyed an incredible eye-to-eye encounter with the stunning Long-tailed Ground-Roller.**



**One endemic eating another! A Banded Kestrel swoops down and captures a Madagascar hissing cockroach!**



**One male and two females of the beautiful Madagascar Sandgrouse, which was saw near Tulear.**



Wherever you are on the 'Red Isle', there is usually a Madagascar Bee-eater flying overhead.



Green-capped Coua is one of the six coua species that we saw in the dry southwest.



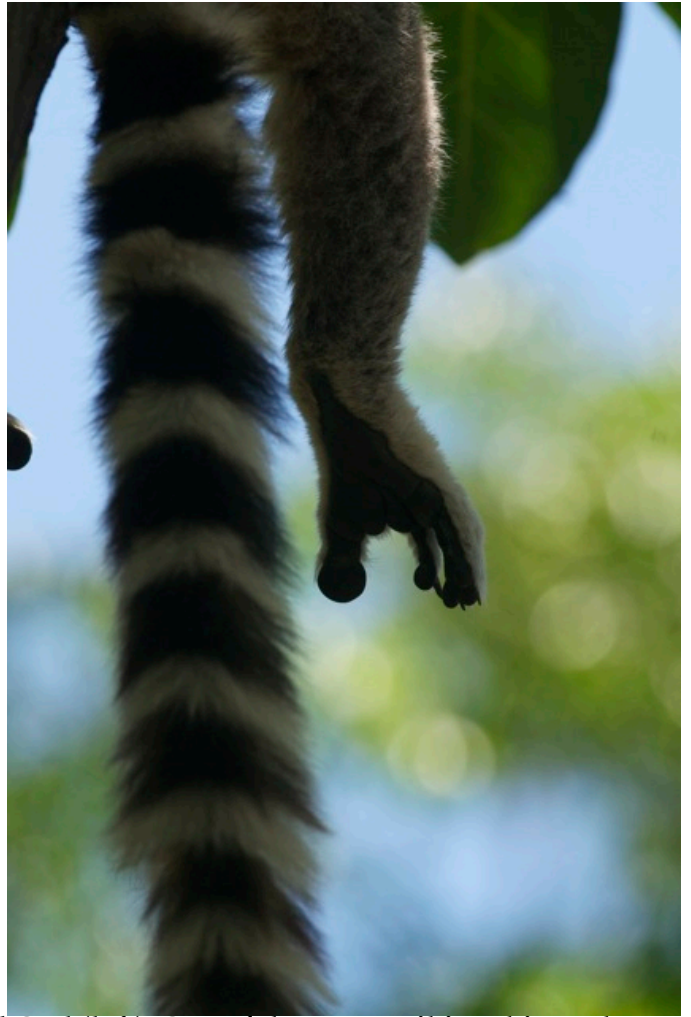
A typical sight in the otherworldly spiny forest... a Madagascar Hoopoe perched on an octopus tree.



**Tropical tranquility on the little island of Nosy Ve (which means 'little island' in Malagasy!).**



**The colony of Red-tailed Tropicbirds on the 'little island' is our excuse for visiting this paradise on a birding tour!**



A long search at Isalo paid off with a White-browed Owl (left). One of the most striking things about lemurs is their 'sticky-pad' feet! This one is a ring-tailed (right).



Brown Mesite was one of the prizes we found at Ranomafana NP.



**Two rainforest endemics: a female Common Sunbird-Asity (left) and a Forest Rock-Thrush (right).**



**We were privileged to see the resplendent Pitta-like Ground-Roller on our first afternoon in the rainforest at Ranomafana.**





**Black-and-white ruffed lemur in Mantadia National Park, which is part of Analamazaotra.**



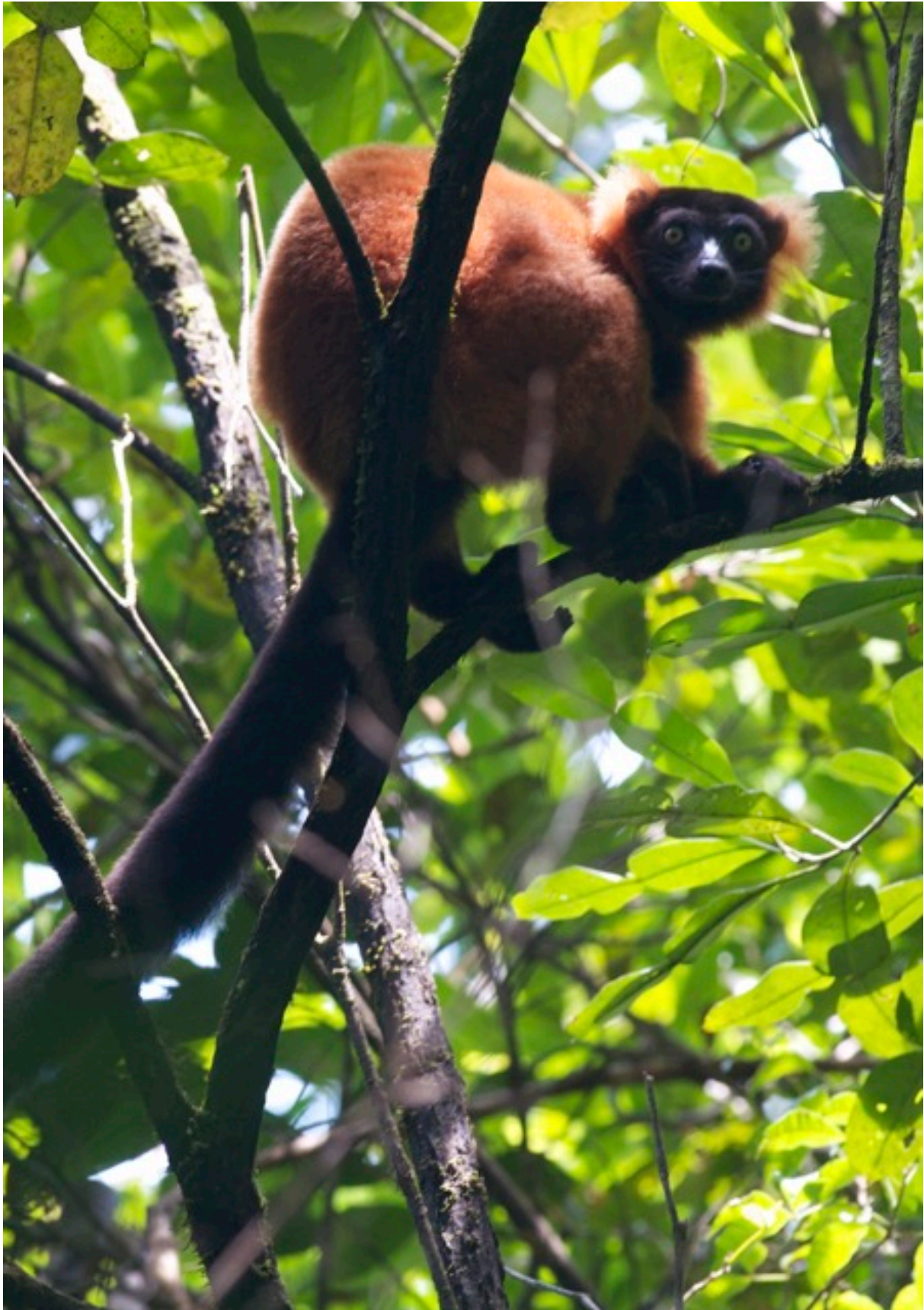
**This little alien is a lowland streaked tenrec, one of our best sightings in Mantadia.**



Crossley's Babbler is a weird, ground-dwelling rainforest vanga.



A *Furcifer willsii* chameleon in Perinet (left), just one of a dazzling array of chameleons that we saw on this trip. Perinet is also one of the best place in Madagascar to see Nuthatch Vanga (right).



Red ruffed lemur is one of the prizes that makes a trip to Masoala worthwhile.



Helmet Vanga, the namesake of the extension that brings us to Masoala's pristine beaches and forest.



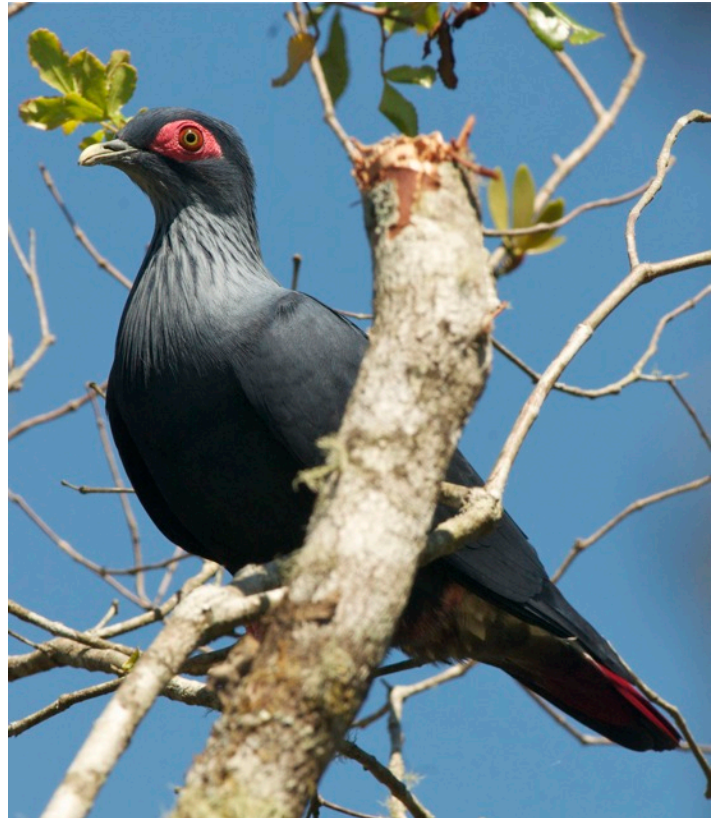
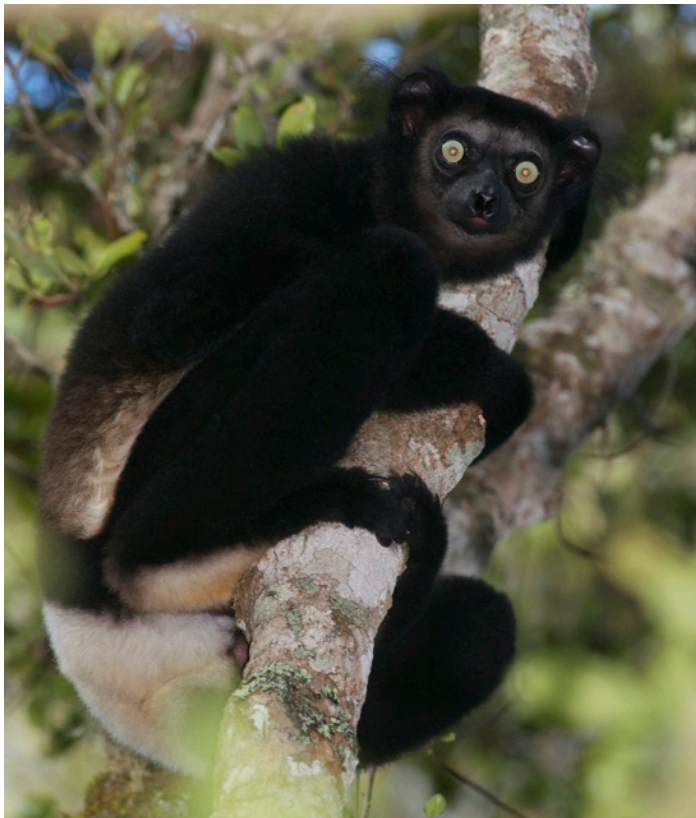
The rare Bernier's Vanga was another prize of our time on Masoala.



White-fronted brown lemur (left) and a leaf-tailed gecko (right). The leaf-tailed geckos are endemic to Madagascar and nearby islands, and sport some of the most remarkable camouflage of any animal.



Masoala boasts not only pristine forest, but beautiful beaches and coral reefs as well. This little rock island lying just offshore was consistently covered with terns, including Roseates, during our visit.



At Anjozorobe, we enjoyed a close encounter with the mostly-black indri (left) found in this localized area. This Madagascar Blue Pigeon (right) was drunk on fermented berries and allowed close approach!



The well-named jeweled chameleon (left) and Madagascar Partridge (right) were great sightings during our final days at Anjozorobe.

## BIRD LIST

Taxonomy and nomenclature follow *The Clements Checklist of the Birds of the World*, including updates through 2010. One split not recognized by *Clements* is noted in brackets.

### *Anatidae (Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl)*

|                                   |                               |  |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| White-faced (Duck) Whistling-Duck | <i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>    |  |
| Fulvous (Duck) Whistling-Duck     | <i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>    |  |
| Comb (Knob-billed) Duck           | <i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i> |  |
| African Pygmy-goose               | <i>Nettapus auritus</i>       |  |
| <b>Meller's Duck</b>              | <b><i>Anas melleri</i></b>    |  |
| <b>Bernier's Teal</b>             | <b><i>Anas bernieri</i></b>   |  |
| Red-billed Duck (Teal)            | <i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>    |  |
| Hottentot Teal                    | <i>Anas hottentota</i>        |  |

### *Numididae (Guineafowl)*

|                     |                         |  |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Helmeted Guineafowl | <i>Numida meleagris</i> |  |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--|

### *Phasianidae (Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies)*

|                             |   |  |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Madagascar Partridge</b> | <b><i>Margaroperdix madagascarensis</i></b> |  |
| Harlequin Quail             | <i>Coturnix delegorguei</i>                 |  |

### *Podicipedidae (Grebes)*

|                           |                               |  |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Little Grebe              | <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> |  |
| Madagascar (Little) Grebe | <i>Tachybaptus pelzelni</i>   |  |

### *Phoenicopteridae (Flamingos)*

|                  |                                   |  |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Greater Flamingo | <i>Phoenicopus (ruber) roseus</i> |  |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|--|

### *Phaethontidae (Tropicbirds)*

|                       |                            |  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Red-tailed Tropicbird | <i>Phaethon rubricauda</i> |  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|--|

### *Ciconiidae (Storks)*

|                  |                               |  |
|------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| African Openbill | <i>Anastomus lamelligerus</i> |  |
|------------------|-------------------------------|--|

### *Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants and Shags)*

|                              |                                |  |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Long-tailed (Reed) Cormorant | <i>Phalacrocorax africanus</i> |  |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|

### *Anhingidae (Anhingas)*

|                |                                    |  |
|----------------|------------------------------------|--|
| African Darter | <i>Anhinga (melanogaster) rufa</i> |  |
|----------------|------------------------------------|--|

### *Scopidae (Hamerkop)*

|          |                        |  |
|----------|------------------------|--|
| Hamerkop | <i>Scopus umbretta</i> |  |
|----------|------------------------|--|

### *Ardeidae (Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns)*

|                        |                              |  |
|------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Gray Heron             | <i>Ardea cinerea</i>         |  |
| <b>Humblot's Heron</b> | <b><i>Ardea humbloti</i></b> |  |

|                                 |   |  |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Purple Heron                    | <i>Ardea purpurea</i>                   |  |
| Great (White) Egret             | <i>Ardea (Casmerodeus) alba (albus)</i> |  |
| Little (Dimorphic) Egret        | <i>Egretta garzetta (dimorpha)</i>      |  |
| Black Heron (Egret)             | <i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>                |  |
| Cattle Egret                    | <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>                    |  |
| (Common) Squacco Heron          | <i>Ardeola ralloides</i>                |  |
| Madagascar (Squacco) Pond-Heron | <i>Ardeola idae</i>                     |  |
| Green-backed (Striated) Heron   | <i>Butorides striata</i>                |  |
| Black-crowned Night-Heron       | <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>            |  |

*Threskiornithidae (Ibises and Spoonbills)*

|                                |  |  |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Glossy Ibis                    | <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>                |  |
| <b>Madagascar Crested Ibis</b> | <b><i>Lophotibis cristata</i></b>          |  |
| (Madagascar) Sacred Ibis       | <i>Threskiornis aethiopicus (bernieri)</i> |  |
| African Spoonbill              | <i>Platalea alba</i>                       |  |

*Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles, and Kites)*

|                                 |   |          |
|---------------------------------|---|----------|
| Black (Yellow-billed) Kite      | <i>Milvus migrans (aegyptius/parasitus)</i> |          |
| <b>Madagascar Fish-Eagle</b>    | <b><i>Haliaeetus vociferoides</i></b>       |          |
| <b>Madagascar Serpent Eagle</b> | <b><i>Eutriorchis astur</i></b>             | <b>H</b> |
| <b>Reunion Harrier</b>          | <b><i>Circus macroscelus</i></b>            |          |
| <b>Madagascar Harrier-Hawk</b>  | <b><i>Polyboroides radiatus</i></b>         |          |
| Frances's Sparrowhawk           | <i>Accipiter francesii (francesiae)</i>     |          |
| <b>Madagascar Sparrowhawk</b>   | <b><i>Accipiter madagascariensis</i></b>    |          |
| <b>Henst's Goshawk</b>          | <b><i>Accipiter henstii</i></b>             | <b>H</b> |
| <b>Madagascar Buzzard</b>       | <b><i>Buteo brachypterus</i></b>            |          |

*Falconidae (Falcons and Caracaras)*

|                       |                                 |          |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| Madagascar Kestrel    | <i>Falco newtoni</i>            |          |
| <b>Banded Kestrel</b> | <b><i>Falco zoniventris</i></b> |          |
| Eleonora's Falcon     | <i>Falco eleonorae</i>          |          |
| Sooty Falcon          | <i>Falco concolor</i>           | <b>G</b> |
| Peregrine Falcon      | <i>Falco peregrinus</i>         |          |

*Mesitornithidae (Mesites)*

|                              |                                    |  |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>White-breasted Mesite</b> | <b><i>Mesitornis variegata</i></b> |  |
| <b>Brown Mesite</b>          | <b><i>Mesitornis unicolor</i></b>  |  |
| <b>Subdesert Mesite</b>      | <b><i>Monias benschi</i></b>       |  |

*Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules, and Coots)*

|                             |                                       |  |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Madagascar Flufftail</b> | <b><i>Sarothrura insularis</i></b>    |  |
| <b>Madagascar Wood-Rail</b> | <b><i>Canirallus kioloides</i></b>    |  |
| <b>Madagascar Rail</b>      | <b><i>Rallus madagascariensis</i></b> |  |
| White-throated Rail         | <i>Dryolimnas cuvieri</i>             |  |
| Baillon's Crake             | <i>Porzana pusilla</i>                |  |
| Allen's (Lesser) Gallinule  | <i>Porphyrio alleni</i>               |  |
| Common Moorhen              | <i>Gallinula chloropus</i>            |  |
| Red-knobbed Coot            | <i>Fulica cristata</i>                |  |



*Charadriidae (Plovers and Lapwings)*

|                             |                                     |  |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Black-bellied (Grey) Plover | <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>         |  |
| Lesser Sandplover           | <i>Charadrius mongolus</i>          |  |
| Greater Sandplover          | <i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>     |  |
| Kittlitz's Plover           | <i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>         |  |
| Common Ringed Plover        | <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>         |  |
| <b>Madagascar Plover</b>    | <b><i>Charadrius thoracicus</i></b> |  |
| Three-banded Plover         | <i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>       |  |
| White-fronted Plover        | <i>Charadrius marginatus</i>        |  |

*Dromadidae (Crab Plover)*

|             |                       |  |
|-------------|-----------------------|--|
| Crab Plover | <i>Dromas ardeola</i> |  |
|-------------|-----------------------|--|

*Recurvirostridae (Stilts and Avocets)*

|                    |                              |  |
|--------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Black-winged Stilt | <i>Himantopus himantopus</i> |  |
|--------------------|------------------------------|--|

*Jacanidae (Jacanas)*

|                          |                                       |  |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Madagascar Jacana</b> | <b><i>Actophilornis albinucha</i></b> |  |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|

*Scolopacidae (Sandpipers and Allies)*

|                         |                                      |  |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Terek Sandpiper         | <i>Xenus cinereus</i>                |  |
| Common Sandpiper        | <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>            |  |
| Common Greenshank       | <i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>            |  |
| Whimbrel                | <i>Numenius phaeopus</i>             |  |
| Bar-tailed Godwit       | <i>Limosa lapponica</i>              |  |
| Ruddy Turnstone         | <i>Arenaria interpres</i>            |  |
| Sanderling              | <i>Calidris alba</i>                 |  |
| Curlew Sandpiper        | <i>Calidris ferruginea</i>           |  |
| <b>Madagascan Snipe</b> | <b><i>Gallinago macrodactyla</i></b> |  |

*Turnicidae (Buttonquail)*

|                               |                                  |  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Madagascar Buttonquail</b> | <b><i>Turnix nigricollis</i></b> |  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|

*Glareolidae (Pratincoles and Coursers)*

|                              |                                 |  |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Madagascar Pratincole</b> | <b><i>Glareola ocularis</i></b> |  |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|

*Rostratulidae (Painted-Snipes)*

|                       |                                |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Greater Painted-snipe | <i>Rostratula benghalensis</i> |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--|

*Laridae (Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers)*

|                            |  |  |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Saunders' Tern             | <i>Sternula (Sterna) saundersi</i>     |  |
| Caspian Tern               | <i>Hydroprogne (Sterna) caspia</i>     |  |
| Whiskered Tern             | <i>Chlidonias hybrida (hybridus)</i>   |  |
| Roseate Tern               | <i>Sterna dougallii</i>                |  |
| Common Tern                | <i>Sterna hirundo</i>                  |  |
| Great Crested (Swift) Tern | <i>Thalasseus (Sterna) bergii</i>      |  |
| Lesser Crested Tern        | <i>Thalasseus (Sterna) bengalensis</i> |  |

*Pteroclididae (Sandgrouse)*

|                              |                                    |  |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Madagascar Sandgrouse</b> | <b><i>Pterocles personatus</i></b> |  |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|

*Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)*

|                               |  |  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Rock Pigeon (Dove)            | <i>Columba livia</i>                       |  |
| Madagascar Turtle-Dove        | <i>Streptopelia picturata</i>              |  |
| Namaqua Dove                  | <i>Oena capensis</i>                       |  |
| Madagascar Green-Pigeon       | <i>Treron australis</i>                    |  |
| <b>Madagascar Blue-Pigeon</b> | <b><i>Alectroenas madagascariensis</i></b> |  |

*Psittacidae (Parrots)*

|                             |                               |  |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Grey-headed Lovebird</b> | <b><i>Agapornis canus</i></b> |  |
| (Greater) Vasa Parrot       | <i>Coracopsis vasa</i>        |  |
| Black (Lesser Vasa) Parrot  | <i>Coracopsis nigra</i>       |  |

*Cuculidae (Cuckoos)*

|                                   |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Madagascar (Lesser) Cuckoo</b> | <b><i>Cuculus rochii</i></b>               |  |
| <b>Giant Coua</b>                 | <b><i>Coua gigas</i></b>                   |  |
| <b>Coquerel's Coua</b>            | <b><i>Coua coquereli</i></b>               |  |
| <b>Red-breasted Coua</b>          | <b><i>Coua serriana</i></b>                |  |
| <b>Red-fronted Coua</b>           | <b><i>Coua reynaudii</i></b>               |  |
| <b>Red-capped Coua</b>            | <b><i>Coua ruficeps</i></b>                |  |
| <b>[Green-capped Coua]</b>        | <b><i>[Coua ruficeps olivaceiceps]</i></b> |  |
| <b>Running Coua</b>               | <b><i>Coua cursor</i></b>                  |  |
| <b>Crested Coua</b>               | <b><i>Coua cristata</i></b>                |  |
| <b>Verreaux's Coua</b>            | <b><i>Coua verreauxi</i></b>               |  |
| <b>Blue Coua</b>                  | <b><i>Coua caerulea</i></b>                |  |
| Madagascar Coucal                 | <i>Centropus toulou</i>                    |  |

*Strigidae (Owls)*

|   |                                     |  |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Malagasy (Rainforest ) Scops-Owl</b> | <b><i>Otus rutilus</i></b>          |  |
| <b>Torotoroka Scops-Owl</b>             | <b><i>Otus madagascariensis</i></b> |  |
| <b>White-browed Owl</b>                 | <b><i>Ninox supercilialis</i></b>   |  |
| <b>Madagascar Long-eared Owl</b>        | <b><i>Asio madagascariensis</i></b> |  |

*Caprimulgidae (Nightjars and allies)*

|                          |                                     |  |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Madagascar Nightjar      | <i>Caprimulgus madagascariensis</i> |  |
| <b>Collared Nightjar</b> | <b><i>Caprimulgus enarratus</i></b> |  |

*Apodidae (Swifts)*

|  |                              |  |
|--|------------------------------|--|
| Malagasy Spinetail (Madagascar Spine-tailed Swift) | <i>Zoonavena grandidieri</i> |  |
| Madagascar (Black) Swift                           | <i>Apus balstoni</i>         |  |
| African Palm-Swift                                 | <i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>      |  |

*Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)*

|                                    |   |  |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Malagasy (Madagascar) Kingfisher   | <i>Corythornis vintsioides</i>                        |  |
| <b>Madagascar Pygmy-Kingfisher</b> | <b><i>Corythornis (Ispidina) madagascariensis</i></b> |  |

*Meropidae (Bee-eaters)*

|                      |                             |  |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Madagascar Bee-eater | <i>Merops superciliosus</i> |  |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|--|

*Coraciidae (Rollers)*

|                     |                             |  |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Broad-billed Roller | <i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i> |  |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|--|

**Brachypteraciidae (Ground-Rollers)**

|                             |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Short-legged Ground-Roller  | <i>Brachypteracias leptosomus</i> |  |
| Scaly Ground-Roller         | <i>Brachypteracias squamiger</i>  |  |
| Pitta-like Ground-Roller    | <i>Atelornis pittoides</i>        |  |
| Rufous-headed Ground-Roller | <i>Atelornis crossleyi</i>        |  |
| Long-tailed Ground-Roller   | <i>Uratelornis chimaera</i>       |  |

*Leptosomidae (Cuckoo-Roller)*

|                            |                            |  |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| (Madagascar) Cuckoo-Roller | <i>Leptosomus discolor</i> |  |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|--|

*Upupidae (Hoopoes)*

|                   |                        |  |
|-------------------|------------------------|--|
| Madagascar Hoopoe | <i>Upupa marginata</i> |  |
|-------------------|------------------------|--|

*Philepittidae (Asities)*

|                                |                               |  |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Velvet Asity                   | <i>Philepitta castanea</i>    |  |
| Schlegel's Asity               | <i>Philepitta schlegeli</i>   |  |
| Common Sunbird-Asity           | <i>Neodrepanis coruscans</i>  |  |
| Yellow-bellied (Sunbird-)Asity | <i>Neodrepanis hypoxantha</i> |  |

*Vangidae (Vangas)*

|                         |  |  |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Tylas Vanga             | <i>Tylas eduardi</i>                   |  |
| Dark Newtonia           | <i>Newtonia amphichroa</i>             |  |
| Common Newtonia         | <i>Newtonia brunneicauda</i>           |  |
| Archbold's Newtonia     | <i>Newtonia archboldi</i>              |  |
| Chabert's Vanga         | <i>Leptopterus chabert</i>             |  |
| (Madagascar) Blue Vanga | <i>Cyanolanius madagascarinus</i>      |  |
| Red-tailed Vanga        | <i>Calicalicus madagascariensis</i>    |  |
| Red-shouldered Vanga    | <i>Calicalicus rufocarpalis</i>        |  |
| Nuthatch Vanga          | <i>Hypositta corallirostris</i>        |  |
| Hook-billed Vanga       | <i>Vanga curvirostris</i>              |  |
| Helmet Vanga            | <i>Euryceros prevostii</i>             |  |
| Rufous Vanga            | <i>Schetba rufa</i>                    |  |
| Sickle-billed Vanga     | <i>Falculea palliata</i>               |  |
| Bernier's Vanga         | <i>Oriola bernieri</i>                 |  |
| White-headed Vanga      | <i>Artamella (Leptopterus) viridis</i> |  |
| Lafresnaye's Vanga      | <i>Xenopirostris xenopirostris</i>     |  |
| Van Dam's Vanga         | <i>Xenopirostris damii</i>             |  |
| Pollen's Vanga          | <i>Xenopirostris polleni</i>           |  |
| Ward's Flycatcher       | <i>Pseudobias wardi</i>                |  |
| Crossley's Babbler      | <i>Mystacornis crossleyi</i>           |  |

*Campephagidae (Cuckoo-shrikes)*

|                                 |                         |  |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Ashy (Madagascar) Cuckoo-shrike | <i>Coracina cinerea</i> |  |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--|

*Dicruridae (Drongos)*

|                |                            |  |
|----------------|----------------------------|--|
| Crested Drongo | <i>Dicrurus forficatus</i> |  |
|----------------|----------------------------|--|

*Monarchidae (Monarch Flycatchers)*

|                                |                           |  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Madagascar Paradise-Flycatcher | <i>Terpsiphone mutata</i> |  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--|

*Corvidae (Crows, Jays, and Magpies)*

|           |                     |  |
|-----------|---------------------|--|
| Pied Crow | <i>Corvus albus</i> |  |
|-----------|---------------------|--|

*Alaudidae (Larks)*

|                        |                     |  |
|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Madagascar Lark</b> | <i>Mirafra hova</i> |  |
|------------------------|---------------------|--|

*Hirundinidae (Swallows)*

|                               |                           |  |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Plain (Brown-throated) Martin | <i>Riparia paludicola</i> |  |
| Mascarene Martin              | <i>Phedina borbonica</i>  |  |
| Barn Swallow                  | <i>Hirundo rustica</i>    |  |

*Pycnonotidae (Bulbuls)*

|                   |                                    |  |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Madagascar Bulbul | <i>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</i> |  |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|--|

*Acrocephalidae (Reed-Warblers and Allies)*

|                                 |                               |  |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Madagascar Brush-Warbler        | <i>Nesillas typica</i>        |  |
| <b>Subdesert Brush-Warbler</b>  | <i>Nesillas lantzi</i>        |  |
| <b>Madagascar Swamp-Warbler</b> | <i>Acrocephalus newtoni</i>   |  |
| <b>Brown Emu-tail</b>           | <i>Dromaeocercus brunneus</i> |  |
| <b>Gray Emu-tail</b>            | <i>Dromaeocercus seebohmi</i> |  |

*Bernieridae (Malagasy Warblers)*

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>White-throated Oxylabes</b>          | <i>Oxylabes madagascariensis</i>          |  |
| <b>Long-billed Bernieria (Greenbul)</b> | <i>Bernieria madagascariensis</i>         |  |
| <b>Cryptic Warbler</b>                  | <i>Cryptosylvicola randrianasoloi</i>     |  |
| <b>Wedge-tailed Jery</b>                | <i>Hartertula flavoviridis</i>            |  |
| <b>Thamnornis (Warbler)</b>             | <i>Thamnornis chloropetoides</i>          |  |
| <b>Yellow-browed Oxylabes</b>           | <i>Crossleyia xanthophrys</i>             |  |
| <b>Spectacled Tetraka (Greenbul)</b>    | <i>Xanthornix (Bernieria) zosterops</i>   |  |
| <b>Appert's Tetraka (Greenbul)</b>      | <i>Xanthornix (Bernieria) apperti</i>     |  |
| <b>Grey-crowned Greenbul</b>            | <i>Xanthornix (Bernieria) cinereiceps</i> |  |
| <b>Rand's Warbler</b>                   | <i>Randia pseudozosterops</i>             |  |

*Cisticolidae (Cisticolas and Allies)*

|                             |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Common Jery</b>          | <i>Neomixis tenella</i>     |  |
| <b>Green Jery</b>           | <i>Neomixis viridis</i>     |  |
| <b>Stripe-throated Jery</b> | <i>Neomixis striatigula</i> |  |
| Madagascar Cisticola        | <i>Cisticola cherina</i>    |  |

*Muscicapidae (Old World Flycatchers)*

|                                |                                 |  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Madagascar Magpie-Robin</b> | <i>Copsychus albospecularis</i> |  |
| (Common/African) Stonechat     | <i>Saxicola torquatus</i>       |  |

*Turdidae (Thrushes and Allies)*

|                             |                                 |  |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Forest Rock-Thrush</b>   | <b><i>Monticola sharpei</i></b> |  |
| <b>Benson's Rock-Thrush</b> | <b><i>Monticola bensoni</i></b> |  |
| <b>Littoral Rock-Thrush</b> | <b><i>Monticola imerina</i></b> |  |

*Zosteropidae (White-eyes)*

|                      |                                 |  |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Madagascar White-eye | <i>Zosterops maderaspatanus</i> |  |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|--|

*Sturnidae (Starlings)*

|                            |                                 |  |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Madagascar Starling</b> | <b><i>Saroglossa aurata</i></b> |  |
| Common Myna                | <i>Acridotheres tristis</i>     |  |

*Nectariniidae (Sunbirds and Spiderhunters)*

|                            |  |  |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Souimanga Sunbird          | <i>Cinnyris (Nectarinia) souimanga</i> |  |
| Madagascar (Green) Sunbird | <i>Cinnyris (Nectarinia) notatus</i>   |  |

*Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)*

|                           |                                      |  |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Madagascar Wagtail</b> | <b><i>Motacilla flaviventris</i></b> |  |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|

*Passeridae (Old World Sparrows)*

|               |                          |  |
|---------------|--------------------------|--|
| House Sparrow | <i>Passer domesticus</i> |  |
|---------------|--------------------------|--|

*Ploceidae (Weavers and Allies)*

|                              |                                       |  |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Nelicourvi Weaver</b>     | <b><i>Ploceus nelicourvi</i></b>      |  |
| <b>Sakalava Weaver</b>       | <b><i>Ploceus sakalava</i></b>        |  |
| <b>Red (Magagascar) Fody</b> | <b><i>Foudia madagascariensis</i></b> |  |
| <b>Forest Fody</b>           | <b><i>Foudia omissa</i></b>           |  |

*Estrilidae (Waxbills and Allies)*

|                            |                             |  |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Madagascar Mannikin</b> | <b><i>Lonchura nana</i></b> |  |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|

H = Heard only

G = Guide only

Malagasy endemics (including families) marked **in bold**

## MAMMAL LIST

|                          |                                 |  |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Grey-brown Mouse Lemur   | <i>Microcebus griseorufus</i>   |  |
| Golden-brown Mouse Lemur | <i>Microcebus ravelobensis</i>  |  |
| Brown Mouse Lemur        | <i>Microcebus rufus</i>         |  |
| Goodman's Mouse Lemur    | <i>Microcebus lehilahytsara</i> |  |
| Furry-eared Dwarf Lemur  | <i>Cheirogaleus crossleyi</i>   |  |
| Fat-tailed Dwarf Lemur   | <i>Cheirogaleus medius</i>      |  |

### *Lepilemuridae (Sportive Lemurs)*

|                               |                           |   |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Small-toothed Sportive Lemur  | <i>Lepilemur microdon</i> | H |
| Milne-Edward's Sportive Lemur | <i>Lepilemur edwardsi</i> |   |
| Hubbard's Sportive Lemur      | <i>Lepilemur hubbardi</i> |   |

### *Lemuridae (True Lemurs)*

|                                    |                            |  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Eastern Lesser (Gray) Bamboo Lemur | <i>Hapalemur griseus</i>   |  |
| Golden Bamboo Lemur                | <i>Hapalemur aureus</i>    |  |
| Ring-tailed Lemur                  | <i>Lemur catta</i>         |  |
| Common Brown Lemur                 | <i>Eulemur fulvus</i>      |  |
| Red-fronted Brown Lemur            | <i>Eulemur rufus</i>       |  |
| White-fronted Brown Lemur          | <i>Eulemur albifrons</i>   |  |
| Red-bellied Lemur                  | <i>Eulemur rubriventer</i> |  |
| Mongoose Lemur                     | <i>Eulemur mongoz</i>      |  |
| Black-and-white Ruffed Lemur       | <i>Varecia variegata</i>   |  |
| Red Ruffed Lemur                   | <i>Varecia rubra</i>       |  |

### *Indridae (Woolly Lemurs, Sifakas & Indri)*

|                              |                              |  |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Eastern Woolly Lemur (Avahi) | <i>Avahi laniger</i>         |  |
| Western Woolly Lemur (Avahi) | <i>Avahi occidentalis</i>    |  |
| Verreaux's Sifaka            | <i>Propithecus verreauxi</i> |  |
| Coquerel's Sifaka            | <i>Propithecus coquereli</i> |  |
| Diademed Sifaka              | <i>Propithecus edwardsi</i>  |  |
| Milne-Edwards Sifaka         | <i>Propithecus diadema</i>   |  |
| Indri                        | <i>Indri Indri</i>           |  |

### *Microchiroptera (Micro bats)*

|                             |                                 |  |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Mauritian Tomb Bat          | <i>Taphozous mauritanus</i>     |  |
| Commerson's Leaf-nosed Bat? | <i>Hipposideros commersoni?</i> |  |

### *Tenrecidae (Tenrecs)*

|                         |                                  |  |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Common Tenrec           | <i>Tenrec ecaudatus</i>          |  |
| Lowland Streaked Tenrec | <i>Hemicentetes semispinosus</i> |  |

### *Rodents*

|                         |                         |  |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Western Tuft-tailed Rat | <i>Eliurus myoxinus</i> |  |
| Eastern Red Forest Rat  | <i>Nesomys rufus</i>    |  |