

TANZANIA:

BIRDING AMONG THE
BEASTS
A Tropical Birding Set-Departure

Usambara Pre-Trip: March 23-31, 2019 Main Tour: April 1-13, 2019

Guides: Ken Behrens & Iain Campbell (main tour)

Photos taken by Ken Behrens unless labeled otherwise

Day-by-day text by Chris Ludwig Introduction by Ken Behrens

TOUR INTRODUCTION

Northern Tanzania is a special place. There is no other country on the continent that comes closer to realizing the Africa of most people's dreams and imaginations. Here are sweeping savannah landscapes, beautiful skies, seemingly endless herds of wildebeest and zebra, abundant big predators, and conspicuous and colorful birds aplenty. Actually there is much more here than the Africa of stereotypes... there is dry thornscrub full of jewel-like birds, lush montane forests that shelter rare and localized birds, and even fever tree woodland, like some absurd dream of a Nordic barbarian grown weary of snow and pine trees. If someone wanted to make one trip to Africa and really experience the essence of the continent, at least its best parts, I would have to recommend this tour.



This tour was a success by any measure. We racked up 590 species of birds and 64 mammals, plus 23 species of reptiles. We saw nearly all the possible Tanzanian endemics and near-endemics, plus other highlights that included Secretarybird, four species of Bustards, six species of Turacos, 46 species of raptors, 13 species of cisticola, Golden-winged and Tacazze Sunbirds, 32 members of the classically African weaver family, Gray-headed Silverbill, and three species of whydahs. Mammals were exceptional as well. There is no better place in Africa to experience its megafauna. There were 100s of 1000s of migrating Wildebeest, a whole range of antelope, African Elephants, Lions galore, amazing experiences with a family of Cheetahs, a

couple gorgeous Leopards, and a good night drive that featured White-tailed Mongoose, East African Springhare, and an African Wild Cat. Perhaps more important than anything else, we really soaked in this amazing part each sunset, Africa, savoring afternoon thunderstorm, and each brilliant dawn. It is a privilege simply to be alive in this part of the world!

Chris Ludwig, who was one of the tour participants, was kind enough to write the day-by-day account below. Not only is it more humorous and comprehensive than what I would have written, but it also has the advantage of coming from the perspective of a participant rather than the guide. It does a great job capturing the rather copious amount of fun, including lots of laughs, that we shared during these three weeks. Enjoy – it's a good read!



Gray Crowned-Crane is wonderfully common in the Ngorongoro Crater.



DAY-BY-DAY ACCOUNT

March 22: Arrival in Arusha. After arrival, we easily get our visa and some Tanzanian shillings from the airport's ATM. The smell of wood smoke fills the air and we appreciate the warmth of the night air. We find our driver and two Canadians, father Steve and daughter Elizabeth, co-travelers on the bird tour, who join us for the 45-minute ride to Meru View Lodge. In bed by 11pm. Tomorrow the adventure begins.

March 23, 2019: Arusha to Same. We awake pre-dawn and amble to breakfast in the early light. Sunbirds, bulbuls, and weavers litter the garden in striking abundance. Our heads are already spinning. Chris and Jolie enjoy meeting Sonia, a serious birder from London and will enjoy her company greatly over the next three weeks. Claire from Pittsburgh also joins us and the crew of 6 birders for the extension is complete. Tropical Birding leader Ken Behrens and local guide Njano arrive at 7:30am and (after successful, space-bending work to get the 8 of us with our luggage and water into the 8-seat Land Cruiser) we are off.



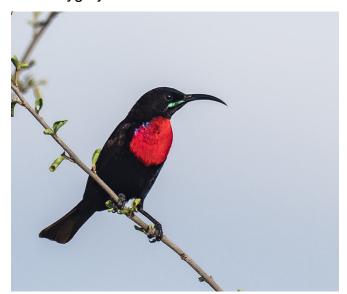


Dry Thornscrub specialties near Same: Pink-breasted Lark (left) and Pygmy Batis (right).

Today we drive east with Mt. Kilimanjaro looming large but cloud-draped to the north. We are targeting birds of the arid acacia and commiphora scrub that persist among the burgeoning



human population that is slowly converting the region into a mix of sisal plantation and grazed lands. Nevertheless, birds are abundant, and our list quickly grows, with colorful beauties including White-headed, Blue-naped, and Speckled Mousebirds, d'Arnaud's Barbet, Red-bellied Parrot, and Rosy-patched Bushshrike. Somehow, a Klaas's Cuckoo fledgling successfully entices food from both a Pygmy Batis and a Red-fronted Warbler. How odd!





Hunter's Sunbird (left) and Somali Bunting (right, by Jolie Harrison).

During the trip, Jolie and Chris compete for new birds, as Jolie is a few life birds ahead of Chris. Jolie starts the trip off well, catching a fly-by White-headed Barbet that Chris missed. She has "widened the gap"! This expression will be exclaimed whenever Chris misses a bird that Jolie observes during our Africa visit. Over the next three weeks Chris turns the table on occasion, proudly exclaiming that he is "closing the gap"!

After lunch, we arrive and drop our bags at the Elephant Motel in Same and reconvene for an all-to-brief afternoon drive into Mkomazi National Park, where we encounter our first iconic African beasts including distant, brief views of Masai Giraffe and African Elephant. Elizabeth shows off her mammal-spotting skills with numerous sightings of Kirk's Dikdiks scurrying low and mostly hidden among the shrubs. Birds are thriving here as well, with one new and exciting species after another. Chris and Jolie are experiencing an entirely new avifauna – so even the most common species provide a thrill. Lilac-breasted Roller, Purple Grenadier, as well as Bluecapped and Red-cheeked Cordonbleu, are among the colorful beauties (henceforth the latter bird is generally pronounced and drawn out in a heavy French accent).





We saw our first Yellow-necked Francolins in Mkomazi NP.

Reluctantly we leave the Park because the gate is closed promptly at 6:00, and then it's back to the Motel for the bird list, dinner, and bed. Only day 1 of the trip and already we have so many moments worth remembering!

This is our first night of a ritual that our tour groups would repeat for the next 21 days. Step 1 – order a drink (generally Serengeti, Safari, or Kilimanjaro beer). Step 2 – listen as Ken rattles through the bird list (and Jolie grunts, exclaims, or curses through the highs and lows of photo download and processing). Step 3 – eat. Step 4 – varied, as occasionally Chris and Jolie would order another beer and work on the list or pictures after dinner.

March 24, 2019: Mkomazi to Lushoto. After an early breakfast, we continue our drive east, stopping opportunistically to bird more thornscrub. We take a quick stop along the wetlands of the Pangani River, before taking a left to head uphill into the West Usambara Mountains. We proceed up the curving, mountain road to Lushoto and Mullers Mountain Lodge, our home for the next two nights.



After check-in, we spend the late afternoon birding a local trail through old-growth forest. Here we get short but satisfying glimpses of some tough birds including Usambara Thrush, Usambara Akalat, and White-chested Alethe. As with many forest skulkers, not everyone gets on every bird, but Ken gets most of us on each species. Elizabeth's interest is turned more towards the trail's Blue Monkeys. We leave the trail at dusk after hearing a few hoots from a Spotted Eagle Owl. On the last stretch of trail, Sonia and Elizabeth intersect a line of ants that ascend their legs and administer some painful bites. They are good sports and surreptitiously deal with their dilemma.

We return to the beautiful lodge, which (candidly) spends more time on the landscaping than the rooms, as water pressure and door locks are a challenge for many of us. As with a few other lodges we visit in this, the low season, Muller's is empty except for us. Despite, all is well with a delicious dinner and an early bed to prepare us for a full day in the West Usambaras tomorrow.





Although the West Usambaras were tough going, we still found lots of birds, including Mountain Buzzard (left) and African Tailorbird (right).

March 25, 2019: West Usambaras. Still no rain on the trip and this troubles Ken as the rains stimulate the birds' breeding and territorial behavior. This makes it easier to find birds as they will



more energetically respond to playback. Although the lack of rain is troubling, it also means that we will lose no time to rain for the entirety of our trip.



Angola Colobus is one of Africa's most spectacular monkeys. We saw many in the Usambaras.

This will be a slow birding day as on two trips to the "Sawmill Tract" we find nary a flock and strike out on our main target, the Usambara Weaver. We do, however, see Kenrick's Starling for the only time on the trip. It's a tough day for Chris as well since he gets a look at a perched Bartailed Trogon and fails to get another soul on to the bird before it flies into the deep forest. While it is a slow birding day, many of the group love our encounter with the stunning Angola Colubus we find in full view over the road on the way to the Sawmill Tract.

Today's adventures consisted predominantly of short vehicle hops to the next interesting spot, interspersed with relatively short walks with Njano trailing us just out of sight in the truck. Jolie's need to ensure that Chris was always carrying no fewer than 2 containers of water, despite the easy conditions, led Ken to share the "water-panicker" concept with Chris.... apparently a



common affliction among birders. The moniker was modified to "coffee-panicker" to encompass Jolie's daily mission to fill a to-go cup with coffee following breakfast (Ken was also diagnosed with onset "coffee-panic.").

Another great dinner and early bed.

March 26, 2019: Lushoto to East Usambaras. Pre-breakfast, we jump into the Land Cruiser for a quick ride down the hill to a nearby patch of forest. Here the whole group manages decent looks at two very tough birds, the thrush-like Spot-throat and the mouse-like Evergreen Forest Warbler.

Njano once again demonstrates his space-bending packing expertise and we are off to the East Usambara Mountains after breakfast. The route requires a fairly long drive, back down into the lowlands then up the eastern slopes of the East Usambaras. On the way down, Ken stops at a cliff where he has a feeling that we might find Mocking Cliff-Chat. Ken once again proves that he has mad skills – a pair of Cliff-Chats makes themselves known.

Later we ascend the East Usambara Mountains and stop for a cooperative breeding group of Chestnut-fronted Helmet Shrikes as well as a mixed flock with great eye-level views of Greenheaded Oriole.





East Usambara prizes: Green-headed Oriole (left) and Half-collared Kingfisher (right).





The East Usambaras hold some rare and highly localized birds like the Long-billed Tailorbird.

On the way to the Emau Hill Forest Camp, our lodging for the next 3 nights in the East Usambara Mountains, given are two warnings: 1) the road up to camp is rough, 2) the lodging of the camp is best described as rustic. Both turn out to be true, but the camp lovely, set in a is relatively intact area with great food and staff. Chris and Jolie have scored with a spacious, comfortable cabin.

March 27, 2019: East Usambaras. Our day starts early with a pre-dawn owl walk attended by all 6 of the tour group. We hear a distant Usambara Eagle-Owl responding to playback and later get some decent looks at an African Wood-Owl near camp.

Back to camp for breakfast and afterwards we head out for a full morning. We meet up with Martin, a local bird guide that really knows his stuff. He helps us find many of the special local species including Sharpe's Akalat, Kretschmer's Longbill, and Long-billed Tailorbird. The tailorbirds are on territory and respond quite energetically to playback and the views are fantastic! On the way back to camp for lunch, Ken catches a glimpse of an African Broadbill and gets us on an adult feeding young – quite a treat. At some point during the day, we run across some jackal scat, and Jolie notes what a great band name it would be (Jackal Scat, live at the 9:30 club!).



In the afternoon following a siesta, Ken, Jolie, Chris, Sonia, and Claire take a hike in the vicinity of camp. In addition to some interesting old stones with crosses spread across the grounds, we are rewarded with a perched Palmnut Vulture that allows extended viewing. The fun part comes on our return to camp. The group (well really mostly Ken and Chris) is showered in a soupy, thick smog of burning oil as they are pinned on a roadside where a truck is struggling to churn up a 30-degree, muddy, rutted road leading back to camp. The smog is best described as 'chewy'.

Another bird list, another dinner, another beer or two, more smiles. Bed.

March 28, 2019: East Usambaras. Today Ken tries another owl hike joined by indomitable Sonia who very much wants the Usambara Eagle-Owl. They come up short on the owl but are rewarded with a Ruwenzori Nightjar as conciliation.

After breakfast, we all pile into the Land Cruiser and head out for some roadside birding in the lower-elevation habitats. We are in the search of the Usambara Hyliota (a bird high on Ken's list as he hasn't yet seen this one), Redtailed Ant-Thrush, and about 10 other tough birds where this is our only or best chance for the trip. Ken misses on the Hyliota but Sonia snags a sighting. Many other birds are seen well, including the Red-Tailed Ant-Thrush, Mombasa and Green-backed Woodpeckers, Black-and-White Shrike-flycatcher, and Eastern



Red-bellied Coast Squirrel, one of several squirrels that we sighted during this trip.

Nicator. Two other species are seen particularly well, responding to playback: Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird and Plain-backed Sunbird.



As we bird the roads, uniformed school children seem to come and go in endless throngs, though we see neither their origin nor destination. Jolie and Elizabeth somehow spot some cryptic gecko species that Ken identifies to the genera *Hemiladactalus* and *Lygodactalus*. In addition to the birds, the Usambaras are known for their herp endemism. Later investigations suggest that the two geckos were Tree Gecko and Conradt's Dwarf Gecko.

Another dinner after another day of great birding in the East Usambara Mountains. Tomorrow we tear off early to catch a plane to a tropical island where the birds and the climate share little in common with our mountain camp.





Pale Batis (left) and Palmnut Vulture (right) near Amani in the East Usambaras.

March 29, 2019: East Usambaras to Pemba Island. We pack up, eat a quick breakfast, then head directly down the hill, as we need to make the airport at Tanga for a flight to Pemba Island. The flight takes about 20 minutes in a little 12-seater plane and provides us with great views of the Indian Ocean.

The island is crowded, and the landscape is heavily altered. Still our visit to Pemba is intentional as it has four endemic birds, an endemic flying fox, and epic snorkeling and reefs, should we complete our endemic bird quest and have time for such things!



When we deplane, it is hot and some of us struggle to acclimate to the heat and humidity. We jump into the two vans supplied by our beachside lodging and drive north. We drive through the agrarian landscape until we reach the north side of Pemba Island, where we drive about a mile through a small patch of remaining, intact forest - this is known as the Ngezi Forest Reserve. We do a last drive through coconut groves and plowed dirt to reach our seaside destination.

Damn the sea is beautiful here as we look across the blue expanse to a few islands in Kenya and west to the Usambara Mountains from which we just came. Ken leaves a little time for us to get settled, and then it's time for birds. We have endemics to see!

The first two are easy, as the Pemba White-eye and the Pemba Sunbird



The endemic subspecies of African Goshawk on Pemba is very small and distinctive.

are easily seen on the grounds of the lodge. Even easier and more of a surprise is the fact that the endemic subspecies of African Goshawk has taken up residence on the grounds of the lodge, and an extremely tame young bird perches in a thicket. The bird is so tame that Jolie, Ken, and Elizabeth can get a picture from about 10 feet away while the rest of the group enjoys fantastic viewing. After this treat we have a delicious, but quick, dinner. There is owling to do – the endemic Pemba Scops Owl awaits.



We drive back through the Ngeze forest where we are met by some local bird guides that, sadly, lack binoculars. They do their best to help, though it appears that Ken may have done as well without assistance from their crew.

near sundown and our attentions are immediately drawn by the Pemba Flying Foxes, which are startlingly large and flying all

Our evening walk begins



The endemic Pemba Flying Fox.

Nightjar.

around the forest as they emerge from their day roosts in the Ngezi Forest. They are frugivores.

As night closes in, we start hearing the Pemba Scops-Owls and quickly get 3 great looks in the spotlight as the birds respond to playback. Our final fun is realized when we are buzzed by some smaller bats, resulting in multiple excited proclamations - but as one flies towards us from down the path, we hear a quiet, dry, British "that's not a bat" as Sonia spots a Square-tailed

Pemba Scops-Owl is easy to hear, but sometimes hard to see.

March 30, 2019: Pemba Island. Today we have a full day on Pemba Island with only a few bird targets, chief among them, the Pemba Green-Pigeon, our final bird endemic. Before heading off for the pigeon we have a nice walk north of the lodge along the beach (the light was spectacular) and see some terns that we won't see again on the trip, including

Common, White-cheeked and Lesser



Crested.

So the pigeon - these are big pigeons that perch for extended periods of time as they eat fruits from trees. How hard could it be – after all they allegedly see them at the lodge relatively regularly? Hard! First, the local birding guide begins to take us on a trek through dense forest to a spot where the pigeons have not been seen in a month. Ken quickly decides on a Plan B: walk the fields while scanning the forest edges for fruiting trees that might yield some pigeons. The air is heating up fast and we are attracting a crowd of children and curious onlookers. It's a bit uncomfortable, when -BAM- Jolie spots one and we find 3 birds in a fruiting tree giving us long looks through the thick greenery.

Ken has a last target in mind before lunch – Mangrove Kingfisher – as this would be the only spot on our tour. After lots of walking (and sweating) and then re-engagement with our local guides, we manage some really nice views of the kingfisher near the edge of the Ngezi Forest.

Bird targets acquired; we take most of the afternoon off. Jolie and Chris (and Sonia and Ken. separately) go snorkeling right off the shore from our lodge. The water is warm and clear and the fish are abundant not far from shore. Chris noted that there were few fish above 12" long and the local dive instructor confirmed that the near-shore waters had been depleted of larger fish by the local spear fisherman. The life



Dickinson's Kestrel is generally scarce, but is locally quite common on Pemba.



was still spectacular and several people noticed Snake Eels – one of the coolest creatures of the trip!

Late in the afternoon, we decide to take a drive up to the north side of the Island where a sand spit might have some interesting terns or shorebirds. Sadly, our van drivers successfully buried a van in sand up to the vehicle's axel, so this journey was thwarted. Even more sadly, we realize that for the first day of the trip we have not seen a Common Bulbul. Tears were shed during the reading of the list.

The meals have been delicious at Gecko Lodge and Ken avails himself to a fiery-hot cabbage relish. Tonight's meal is no exception on both scores.





Two more Pemba endemics: Pemba White-eye (left) and "Pemba" Violet-breasted Sunbird (right).

March 31, 2019: Pemba to Arusha. This is a long travel day as we return to Arusha via 3 flights: Pemba to Zanzibar, Zanzibar to Dar es Salam, and Dar to Arusha. Lodging tonight is back at the Meru View Lodge where we will stay for 3 nights as we kick off the set-departure portion of this trip. Despite the travel, we enjoy the crows, egrets, and raptors visible from our various transports. We are reunited with Margaret and the friendly staff of Meru View by dinnertime.



April 1: Arusha. Today is a transition day, as the main tour starts tomorrow. Nevertheless, Ken throws in a free morning of guided birding to nearby Lake Duluti. TB covers the transportation, and we all pay the modest park entrance fee of \$10/person. Ian from Scotland has arrived for the main tour early enough to join us, and we have a delightful excursion with great looks at numerous exciting birds including Black-throated Wattle-eye, Amethyst Sunbird and four species Kingfishers (from the world's largest, the Giant Kingfisher, down to one of the world's smallest, the African Pygmy Kingfisher). Along the marshy lake edge, scores of Taveta Golden Weavers are in varied stages of nest-building, while an African Emerald Cuckoo calls tauntingly at us from across the lake, but never makes itself seen.





Two "bonus birds" in Arusha: Black-throated Wattle-eye (left) and Giant Kingfisher (right).

Photos by Jolie Harrison.

Later in the day we relax at the Lodge and meet Jackie and Meg who round out the nine birders joining Ken and our second Tropical Birding guide, Iain Campbell, who has just arrived. Tomorrow we head west to start our safari experience, and for the remainder of the trip we will see hundreds to thousands of large mammals almost every day while still looking for all the new birds we can find in the grassland, savanna and woodland habitats.

By dinner, we have adopted a needed convention to alleviate confusion. Iain Campbell the Tropical Birding guide will henceforth be named "two-eyed lain", while Ian Fulton, one of the participants, will referred to as "one-eyed Ian"!





With views like this of the Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove, it's easy to see their emerald spots!

April 2: Arusha National Park. The set tour begins and we are now nine birders: Chris, Jolie, Meg, Claire, Sonia, Ian, Steve, Elizabeth, and Jackie, two TB guides: Ken and lain, and two local drivers/guides: Njano, and Max. Today we visit nearby Mt. Meru in Arusha National Park. Here, we get our first taste of the African savanna and the attendant large mammals including our first look at Common Zebra, Hippo, Common Warthog, African Buffalo, Bushbuck, and Common Waterbuck. This is the experience that sets this tour apart, and we are thrilled to be truly "Birding Among the Beasts".

Elizabeth is a sharp-eyed mammal seeker and, with Njano's help, gets us on to two very small antelope species: Suni and Harvey's Duiker. She also finds a perched Narina Trogon, which occupants of one vehicle get to see for quite a while but, sadly, it flies before the other vehicle can get to the bird.

There is still plenty to see - for example after lunch, folks in both

vehicles get close, open looks at a Greater Painted-Snipe that rests on the shoreline of lake. We also see Southern Pochard and Black Stork for the only time during the trip.







Uncommon birds in Arusha National Park: Narina Trogon (left) and Greater Painted-Snipe (right).

Photos by Jolie Harrison.

Every trip has comic moments, and one of ours came at lunch as a lone male baboon slips into one of the vehicles as we sit and enjoy lunch. Njano and Max quickly scramble back towards the vehicle. They don't make it back before the baboon elects to remove itself hastily when he presses the car's horn accidentally! Separately, we get a look at the other colubus monkey, the Guereza Pied Colubus.

Perfectly pleasant weather prevails today, and indeed for the remainder of the trip. We return to the Meru View Lodge ready for a mammal surfeit in the upcoming days!

April 3: Arusha district. The large mammals will have to wait for a bit longer, as today we drive to an arid region northwest of Mt. Meru, known as the "Lark Plains". These grasslands are home to the Earth's last Beesley's Larks, and we don't have to search long until Ken spots three birds not more than a few minutes after we get out of the car. Ken seems equally thrilled when we find the Short-tailed Lark shortly thereafter. The plains are crowded today, filled with other grassland birds, not to mention another birding tour and some young men in training to be birding guides.



Following this success, we bird the adjacent whistling thorn scrub and follow this with a relaxed picnic under the shade of the stunted trees. After lunch, Ken takes us for a fun hike through the scrubby habitat and we get great looks at a variety of birds typical of the scrub. The less hardy birders deemed this walk a "Death March" and almost everyone was impaled once or twice by the thorns which seemed to arm every woody plant in this area. Everyone is excited when we flush and then relocate an extremely cryptic Slender-tailed Nightjar sleeping peacefully and camouflaged on the open rocky ground. We also see the Foxy Lark (whose name can only be intoned in the manner of a certain Jimi Hendrix song!) and the Abyssinian White-eye. When some people see the Isabelline Wheatear, we learn that "Isabelline" indicates a somewhat creamy greyish color allegedly named after the color of a Spanish Queen Isabelle's dress after she doesn't change it for years while protesting her besiegement...



The Lark Plain was extremely dry on this trip. Photo by Jolie Harrison.

We return to Arusha for a night's stay at the luxurious Ilboru Safari Lodge that is found near the end of a comically terrible street, a rutted, muddy, and crowded roadway that leaves no clue



that a nice lodge would be found anywhere nearby! Chris and Jolie join Sonia for a beer outside by the pool before dinner and are treated to a glimpse into her bird-tracking system, which plays a bugling calvary charge when she records a life bird (this is coupled with her satisfied impish grin).



Red-fronted Warbler in thornscrub at the edge of the Lark Plain.

April 4: Arusha to Tarangire National Park. This morning we leave Arusha for a safari circuit with Tarangire, Ngorongoro, Ndutu, and the Serengeti in front of us. Ken decides that, on the way, we need to experience some excellent Tanzanian coffee, and we stop at a combination coffee plantation and palatial estate that sells their own coffee. Before we meet with the proprietor to learn about the plantation, we do a bit of birding in the bird-filled gardens. The highlight is a cooperative group of White-crested Helmetshrikes that berate our playback in the parking lot. We then enjoy a bracing and delicious cup, then head south and east for our next birding adventure. Our vehicles ride a bit lower due to the pounds of coffee each of us has purchased.



After a relatively short drive, we are at the gate of Tarangire National Park, and immediately the bird life of this habitat makes itself known. Tanzanian endemics and near-endemics are common at the entrance to the Park, including Ashy Starling, Yellow-collared Lovebird, and Rufous-tailed Weaver. Immediately upon entrance to the Park, we are in iconic African savanna with thick-trunked baobab and flat-topped acacia.





Birds at the Tarangire gate: White-headed Buffalo-Weaver (left) and the endemic Ashy Starling (right).

No part of the trip stuns Chris and Jolie more than this day. It seems a dream when we disembark at the Tarangire Safari Lodge. There, amidst the Elephants and Dikdiks, we stumble to the terrace, which has a mind-blowing view of wildlife-laden, seemingly endless savanna. The Tarangire River transects the park and at this particular moment is littered with zebra herds. Literally everywhere we look, a bird or some mammal is moving about. Here, life!

After we check in and unpack, we set off for an afternoon drive to check out a large grassland nearby. We are treated to numerous new birds including Ostrich, Southern Ground-Hornbill, Secretarybird, and three bustards: White-bellied, Buff-crested, and Black-bellied. New mammals make themselves known as well, and we particularly enjoy a family of Bat-eared Fox and a shy herd of Beisa Oryx.

For some on the tour, the day turns out to be a long one. Chris, Ken, and Ian are among those who don't sleep well, what with the occasional loud roaring Lions quite close to the canvas-sided tents. While the "tents" are luxurious, with electricity and an attached bathroom, Chris can't



help but think that it would be comforting to have a solid wall between him and the nearby roaring lion. Such is the price of an immersive African experience!



Tarangire is a gorgeous slice of Africa, and is loaded with Elephants.

April 5: Tarangire National Park. Following an early breakfast, we embark for a drive to the Silale Swamp, a large expanse of marsh in the central part of the park. We drive slowly, stopping for whatever chooses to make itself known. In this case, we happen upon a female Lion, feet from the road, lying next to a Zebra kill. Her cubs, nearly full grown, are nearby as are a few Blackbacked Jackals.

As we drive along the swamp, our sharp-eyed driver Njano spots a leopard lying on a branch. Unfortunately, it's several hundred meters from our vehicle. We turn our attention to the wetland, get a quick look at our only African Marsh Harrier of the trip, and Jolie gets a bird she's



wanted (and hallucinated out of sticks and storks for hours prior) – a Goliath Heron! It looms large over a nearby Black-headed Heron. We enjoy a packed lunch near the wetland, amid attendant birds that have clearly been fed before. The weavers and starlings and even a Crested Francolin come very, very close.

Following lunch, we scope out more of the wetland then slowly drive back to the lodge. Someone in the lead vehicle spots a roosting Verreaux's Eagle Owl, and long, luxurious looks are



Tarangire was flooded with thousands of migrating European Rollers during our visit.

enjoyed by all. We arrive back at the lodge, having just eeked out a look and picture of a Grasshopper Buzzard, just in time for a quick shower before dinner.

Our sleep will be interrupted once again. Sonia deals with baboons that bounce off the walls and roof of her tent. Chris and Jolie awake when an Elephant breaks a pipe behind theirs and all the water drains out of their cistern over the course of several hours.

April 6: Tarangire National Park. More, more, more. We spend today on long morning and shorter afternoon safari drives in the northern portion

of the park. We see many



birds, including the African Penduline-Tit and a Bronze-winged Courser, both of which we do not see again.

Tonight, a subset of the group enjoys a night drive. A number of new mammals are seen including East African Spring Hare, Senegal Galago (Bush Baby), White-tailed Mongoose, and African Wild Cat. The cat we see is all-black. It looks similar to a house cat and with good reason – it is the species that was domesticated and breed to become *Felis catus*.

Tonight, no one complains of problems sleeping amongst the night sounds. Perhaps we are all getting used to the noise, but more likely we are plain tuckered from one amazing sighting after another.



Black-faced Sandgrouse is one of three species of sandgrouse in Tarangire. Wonderful birds!







Southern Ground-Hornbill (left) and Common Cuckoo (right). Photos by Jolie Harrison.

April 7: Tarangire to Ngorongoro Crater. Today we leave Tarangire after breakfast, drive to and bird within Lake Manyara National Park, then make our way to the rim of Ngorongoro Crater, where we will stay at the Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge for two nights.

On this day in Ken's 2018 tour, his group recorded over 200 species of birds, so Chris challenges the group to match this prodigious total. Some in the group embrace this idea, as does Ken, and he listens and watches the whole day to see how many birds we can get. We all do what we can to help.

Prior to entering Lake Manyara National Park, we traverse rice fields where many species of the weaver family and a Black Egret push up the total. We then visit the wetlands of Lake Manyara that further enhance our total, with great looks at many waterbird species including numerous shorebirds, herons, egrets, storks, pelicans, gulls, etc. These are great looks and our first looks at some beauties including African Spoonbill, Saddle-billed and Yellow-billed Storks, White-winged Tern, and Little Bittern. Amidst the showy, larger waterbirds, Chris sees a Marsh Sandpiper that Jolie misses (closing the gap!).

Two other sightings stand out at the Lake. The first is a striking Purple-crested Turaco that Ken hears and then calls in with playback for some satisfying looks at this striking bird. A few minutes later, a Klipspringer emerges to stand on a rock just a few meters from the vehicles. It is small but statuesque, posing for numerous pics by Ken, Jolie, Ian and others in the group.





Lake Manyara National Park has a big nesting colony of Yellow-billed Storks.



Tanzania: Birding Among the Beasts

We lunch at a picnic grounds near the lakeshore and leave the park feeling like we've seen a lot of birds. Will we break 200? We ascend the western wall of the Rift Valley onto the highland road that leads to the Ngorongoro Crater, within the Ngorogoro Conservation Area. We stop for gas and water before entering the Conservation Area through a gate where we take a quick bathroom break. Here we are reminded that the resident baboons will quickly enter a vehicle seeking food if one forgets to roll up the windows. After our baboon encounter in Arusha National Park, we do as instructed!



Klipspringer (left, by Jolie Harrison) and Vitelline Masked-Weaver (right).

The final leg of our journey includes a drive to the crater's edge and a quick stop for a look down to the Ngorongoro Crater floor. Ken scopes out a rhinoceros that ambles slowly below. After a few minutes enjoying the spectacular view, we drive another half-hour or so to the Ngorongoro Sopa Lodge. It is luxurious, with a great view from the rim of the crater.



We do our bird list in the lounge over our beer and Chris counts them up. He has to count again because the total just doesn't seem right. Count 2 gives the same number – 242 species! Sonia has done her part, later reporting having seen 198 of these! This must be among the longest bird lists ever tallied on a single day of an African birding tour.



This view of the Ngorongoro Crater greeted us at the end of a day in which we recorded an incredible 242 species of birds. An epic day by any measure!

April 8: Ngorongoro Crater. We have a full day to explore the expansive Ngorongoro Crater, and split the group with a mammal contingent heading down to the floor for some big mammal exploration, and a birding contingent that will slowly descend into the crater, as the forest and heath along the rim offers excellent birding.





Gray-capped Warbler, on the Ngorongoro Crater rim.

Each group is rewarded. Elizabeth, Steve, and Meg join lain and Njano for the mammals. They see mating Lions, a few cool birds, and a Serval Cat. The remainder (Jackie, Claire, Ian, Sonia, Jolie, and Chris) join Ken and Max for the birds. They remain on the rim of the crater and have great looks at some spectacular birds. Two are particularly memorable. Numerous Golden-winged Sunbirds flit about among blooming flowers. Schalow's Turacos with their improbably-angled crests provide fantastic, extended

views. The bird group also sees African Firefinch and Quailfinch, Levaillant's Cuckoo, and the Brown Warbler (artfully called a Parisoma to maintain interest). This morning is the peak of an unfortunately lingering sickness for Jolie and she struggles to stay sharp, but is definitely reinvigorated by the beautiful and engaging turaco!

Later the birders join the mammal folks at a picnic ground on the floor of the crater. Here some of the local birdlife doesn't always wait for a handout - the Black Kites swoop down and steal food from the unwary among us. Meg loses a sandwich. Iain gets scratched. Ken mentions Hitchcock.

On our way out of the Crater (everyone leaves at night)



A Golden Jackal chowing down on a big rat.



we observe a group of dancing Gray Crowned-Cranes. Even with the crowd of safari vehicles, this place feels magical.



Black-breasted Snake-Eagle, hovering in search of prey.

April 9: Ngorongoro Crater to Ndutu. From the crater rim, we drive down to the Serengeti plains where the Masai population thins and the landscape remains much as it might have appeared millions of years prior. With sweeping plains and distant acacia savannas, apex predators, and a thriving biota, this is the Africa that reminds one of a world past.

On the way to Ndutu, we see two awesome birds along the road - the brilliant Malachite Sunbird and the flouncy J-tailed Jackson's Widowbird. In the Ndutu area we take advantage of being allowed to drive off-road and circuitously amble through the grassy plains. Our attentions are demanded all the way to the lodge by typical birds of these plains, including sandgrouse,



bustards, Shelley's Francolin, Great Spotted Cuckoo, Pallid Harrier, and Secretarybird. Mammals including Grant's Gazelles are scattered across the plains. Finally, we enter a sprawling acacia woodland and arrive at Ndutu Safari Lodge, one of the older, established lodges with a modest, tasteful layout. Each of our small cabins has a small porch and view of the savanna. A Pearl-spotted Owlet sings and greets Chris, Jolie, and Ian. Jolie enjoys the scurrying rodents hiding under the big aloe plants near our front door.

Dinner follows and we are treated to the lodge's resident Common Genet that appears among the restaurant's rafters each night at dinnertime. Happy Africa!



Ndutu has wide open savanna and grassland landscapes.

April 10: Ndutu. Today Ken gives our local driver-guides Njano and Max a simple mission: find Cheetah. They are on it, and within a few minutes of setting off, we are amongst a number of



safari vehicles that are enjoying the presence of a languorous mother and young cheetah that are watching potential prey from high ground. We are among the vehicles that reposition for pictures and close looks. It seems not to bother to the cheetah, and Chris hopes it is not inhibiting their hunting.





Ndudu is famous for mammals, but has great birds too – species like Fischer's Lovebird (left) and Coqui Francolin (right).

The group is given time to get all the photos they want before we move on to look for other animals of interest in the open plains next to the woodlands. Eventually we end up at a remote lake where we find a number of waterbirds and a lone tree with a roosting Barn Owl. Iain and Max take some time to ponder whether the Barn Owl might actually be an African Grass-Owl (ultimately concurring with Ken's confident assertion that it's a Barn Owl), while Jolie is amused to finally see this species on the other side of the globe when there are probably a few perching within 5 miles of her house! A number of raptors share the next tree in the open plains and among them is a beautiful pair of Greater Kestrels. Sonia is thrilled, as this bird is one of the few left that she needs for her growing life list. On our return journey for lunch we again encounter Cheetah – a family resting in the shade of some shrubs on the open plain.

After lunch, the afternoon drive is filled with more birds and mammals including Red-fronted Barbet. With this sighting, we have "swept" the 13 barbets that Ken had on the official tour list.



"Get out your brooms" became a comical refrain as we would "sweep" a number of other bird families before our adventure concluded, including some great bird families such as the Kingfishers, Bee-eaters, and Hornbills.



We had a couple wonderful Cheetah encounters at Ndutu.

April 11: Ndutu to Serengeti NP. For many, the word "Serengeti" immediately evokes images of Africa's open plains and savannas. This was our final destination for this adventure. We slowly wandered our way from Ndutu to the Serengeti National Park. The morning light is fantastic as we traverse the edge of the sulphur-scented Ndutu Lake and are treated to close, beautiful looks at a Chestnut-banded Plover, as well as several other waterbirds that we have seen on other days. Prime Spotted Hyena viewing is had - one slavers over an old bone, while others bask in the sun.



New birds are harder to find as we near the end of the trip - but Black-faced Waxbill is added to our list at the last ranger post in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area.

Though similar in many ways to Tarangire and Ndutu, Serengeti is grander in scale, almost disorienting in that acacia-studded savanna and open plain seemingly extend endlessly in every direction. Hills and low, knobby mountains break up the rolling landscape. Wonderfully, wildlife is more of the same — ungulates, lions, improbable giraffes and even more improbable hippos, and birds in an abundance that seems difficult to comprehend. As has been the case almost unceasingly since the beginning of our journey, the weather is delightful with sun and rolling clouds. We roll up to the Serengeti Simba Lodge just before dinner, and check into wonderful hillside cabins that look out over the savanna, with the sounds of distant mammals and birds to keep us company. Vervet Monkeys are attendant around their deck and Chris and Jolie are charmed by the outside shower.



Three-banded Plover on Lake Ndutu.

April 12: Serengeti NP. This is our last full day of the tour, and we have perhaps saved the best for last. Earlier in the trip, Chris asks Ken if he still needed to see any of the African animals, and



he confesses that he has yet to see an African Wild Dog, also known as the Painted Wolf. After entering the park, Njano and Iain in the second vehicle call Ken and Max on the radio. They have seen Wild Dogs! Max whips the vehicle around in a tight U-turn and we head back to seek the pack. Max exclaims in near-incomprehensible excitement as we race back - Ken is silent and tense with concentrated attention.

As we whiz down the dusty road, Chris catches a glimpse and the brakes are applied with alacrity. We all get a distant look, but Ken notes that the dog is heading for the main road and directs our two vehicles to the road where two other vehicles are already parked. When we get there, we quickly spot the dogs, which are calm and lay about giving our tour vehicles and all of us great views for a solid couple of minutes! There are 5 dogs in this group and one is radio-collared.

At one point we note that folks in another vehicles are watching a large hippo lumber across the road, and don't seem to notice the dogs, which we point out to them. They glance briefly at the dogs, but are more entranced by the hippos and turn quickly back. In fairness to them, hippos are mesmerizing and how could they know that it's a thousand times harder to find an African wild dog than a Hippopotamus!

Later, Ken admits that he is adjusting to a new worldview, as this animal has eluded him for so very long!



African. Wild. Dog. Ken's view of the world has completely changed based on this sighting!



Were that our final adventure, the tour would have already been so much more than complete. But the afternoon holds more treats. First, after lunch at a picnic ground that featured more hyraxes than people, we find the endemic Tanzanian Red-billed Hornbill (vocalizing lengthily in full view) and, yes folks, we have swept the hornbills!





Speckle-fronted (left) and Black-necked (right) Weavers in the Serengeti.

Finally, we find a tree on the open plain where a leopard has cached a fresh Thompson's Gazelle kill among the thick branches of an acacia (we note an older zebra kill higher up in the tree as we move away). We see no Leopard, so we head back towards camp, but a short time later Max and Njano get a radio call that the Leopard has returned! Max positions our vehicle perfectly and we watch the fully-grown cat casually carry the animal up to a higher branch and then hunker down to feast on the hindquarters of its prey, rending the muscle while delicately avoiding tearing the swollen intestine, which it occasionally licks. Many pictures are taken! Jolie alone has taken hundreds.

We are back by dark and enjoy our last reading of the list and dinner together. Tomorrow we have a long drive and a last lunch before we fracture and disassemble back into our lives.

April 13: Serengeti NP to Arusha. We start the day with a quick walk around the grounds and pick up the Familiar Chat and Cinnamon-breasted Bunting. With playback, Ken manages to seriously annoy a very vocal Rock-loving Cisticola. Afterwards, we break up our long drive back to



Arusha with a late lunch at Gibbs farm, a luxurious lodge with an excellent buffet and nice gift shop. The grounds of the lodge are birdy and we are all filled with a desire to enhance the list with a last bird. A nesting Holub's Golden Weaver fills the bill before we depart for a last few hours of driving to Arusha. Along the way we drop off Sonia at a lodge west of town, drop our TB guides Ken and lain in the middle of town amidst a gaggle of street vendors, and return for one last night at the Meru View Lodge.



A Martial Eagle presiding over the Serengeti.



Tanzania: Birding Among the Beasts March 23-April 13, 2019

PHOTO GALLERY

Follows tour's chronology





The arid country around Same was loaded with shrikes, including Long-tailed Fiscal (left) and Isabelline Shrike (right).



Lunch in the shade of a euphorbia, in dry thornveld.





Abyssinian Scimitarbill (left) and Gray-headed Kingfisher (right). Photos by Jolie Harrison.





Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird (left) and Plain-backed Sunbird (right) in the East Usambaras.





An African Goshawk of the diminutive Pemba Island subspecies.





Taveta Golden-Weavers were actively breeding at Lake Duluti.



Gray-backed Camaroptera (left) and Amethyst Sunbird (right).







The diverse habitats of Arusha NP hold an array of cool birds like Chinspot Batis (left, by Jolie Harrison) and Cape Teal (right).



Guereza Pied Colobus is quite common in the montane forest of Arusha NP.





Arusha NP holds lots of big mammals, like this "Masai" Giraffe.



An impish White-throated Monkey.



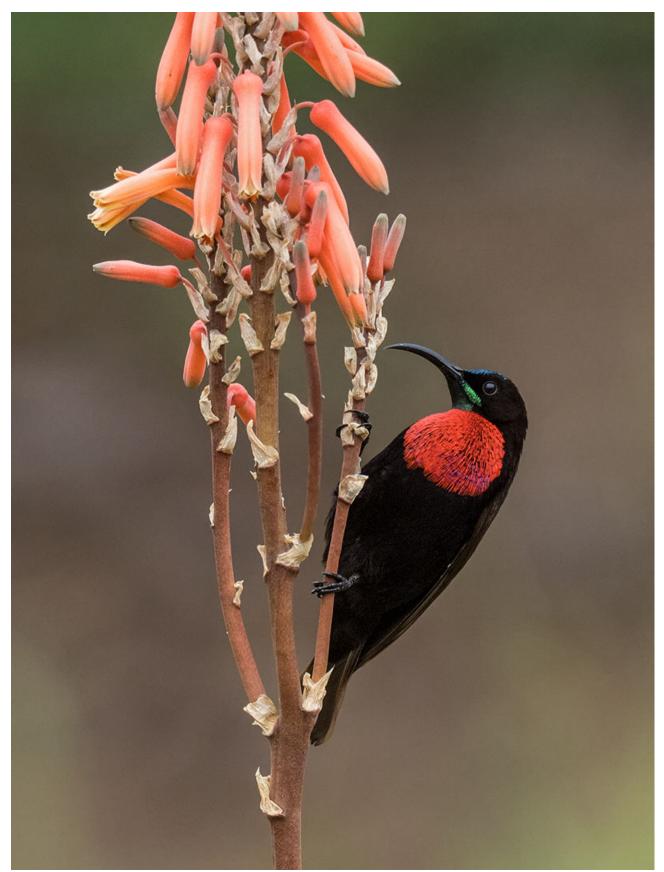


Near the Lark Plain, we did some more thornscrub birding, and saw birds like Brubru (left) and Black-throated Barbet (right).



This Purple Indigobird near the Lark Plain came as a major surprise.





A coffee estate in Arusha was good for birding and photography of species like Scarlet-chested Sunbird.





White Helmetshrikes, showing off their crazy eye wattles.



Black-crowned Tchagra, a very scarce bird on this tour.





Scenes like this abound in Tarangire, a paradise of mammals, baobabs, and birds.





The two coursers that we saw in Tarangire: Double-banded (left) and Bronze-winged (right).





Verreaux's Eagle-Owl (left, by Jolie Harrison) and Mountain Gray Woodpecker (right).



Boehm's Common Zebra... and Wattled Starling.







Olive Baboon (left) and Vervet Monkey (right). Photos by Jolie Harrison.





Blue-cheeked (left) and Little (right) Bee-eaters.



Lion on a recent Zebra kill (left, by Jolie Harrison). African Hawk-Eagle (right).



Tanzania: Birding Among the Beasts March 23-April 13, 2019



Pangani Longclaw, showing off its ridiculously long namesake claws.



Closeups of Common Ostrich (left) and African Elephant (right).





This immature Bateleur was incredibly confiding!



Collared Pratincole, otherwise known as "shorebird-swallow-tern"!





Tawny Eagle in Lake Manyara National Park.



Black-winged Bishop at the picnic area where we had lunch in Manyara.





Yellow-spotted Bush Hyraxes.





Pin-tailed Whydah (left, by Jolie Harrison) and Pink-backed Pelican (right).





Schalow's Turacos put on a show for us on the Ngorongoro Crater rim.



Olive Baboon organizational chart.







Migratory Whinchat (left) and resident African Stonechat (right).



Black-bellied Bustard, like a fish in the grassy water of Ngorongoro.





We saw a big group of courting Gray Crowned-Cranes in Ngorongoro.



We had fabulous views of the scarce African Black Duck.





Bronze Sunbird, on the way down into the crater.







Eastern Double-collared Sunbird, a common and delightful highland bird.



Prize Ngorogongoro sightings: Southern Tree Hyrax (left, by Jolie Harrison), and Gray-headed Nigrita (right).







Grant's Gazelle (left) and Malachite Sunbird (right).



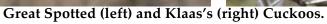
Lesser Gray Shrikes were migrating through the Ndutu area.



Tanzania: Birding Among the Beasts March 23-April 13, 2019









Tanzania: Birding Among the Beasts March 23-April 13, 2019





Greater Flamingo (leff) and Ruff (right) mirrored on Lake Ndutu.



The Master Yoda-esque Bat-eared Fox.



Tanzania: Birding Among the Beasts March 23-April 13, 2019







Kestrels, the resident Greater Kestrel (left) and migrant Lesser Kestrel (right).



Tanzania: Birding Among the Beasts March 23-April 13, 2019



Chestnut-banded Plover, a salt pan specialist.



The female Pygmy Falcon is larger than the male, but still tiny.





A displaying Kori Bustard on the Ndutu Plain.



Buff-bellied Warbler, a dinky acacia-dwelling warbler.







Cheetah brothers.





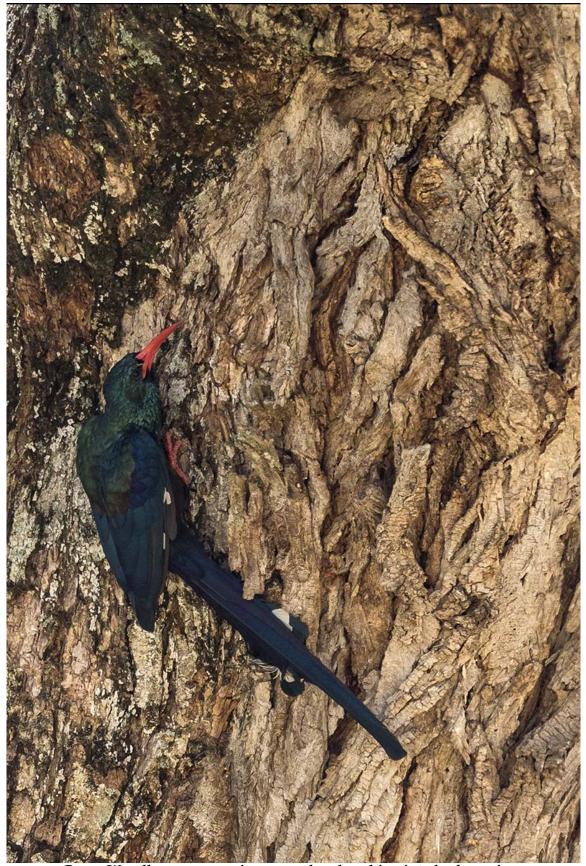


White-headed Vulture (left) and the endemic Gray-breasted Francolin (right).



Fischer's Sparrowlark, a common bird across most of northern Tanzania.





Green Woodhoopoe, creeping around and probing into bark crevices.







Cape Teal on Lake Ndutu.







Secretarybird (left) and Topi (right) on the Serengeti Plains.



Gray-headed Silverbill, a spangle-faced little waxbill.



Tanzania: Birding Among the Beasts March 23-April 13, 2019



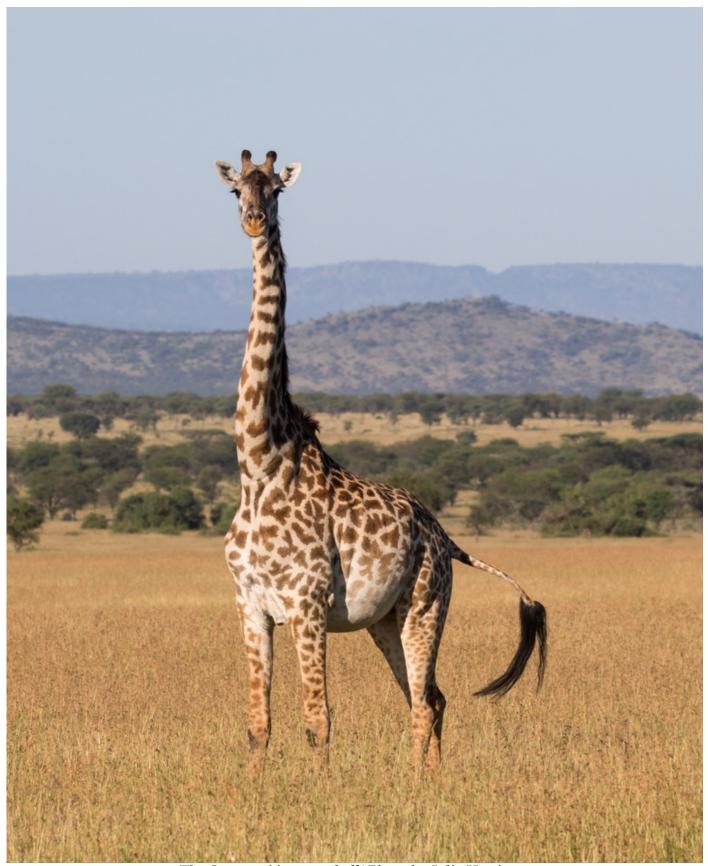


Yellow pipits: the migrant Yellow Wagtail (left) and resident Yellow-throated Longclaw (right).



Birding among the beasts: a Common Sandpiper on a Hippo pod.





The Serengeti in a nutshell! Photo by Jolie Harrison.





Rufous-tailed Rock-Thrush, a migrant that was passing through the Serengeti.



Lodge birds in the Serengeti: Spot-flanked Barbet (left) and Rock-loving Cisticola (right).





A long Leopard sighting was the perfect capstone to an epic Tanzania trip.







Arrow-marked Babbler (left) and Long-crested Eagle (right).



At Gibb's Farm, we saw Thick-billed Seedeater and a few other birds.



BIRD LIST

Taxonomy and nomenclature follow *The eBird / Clements Checklist of the Birds of the World*, including updates through 2018.

STRUTHIONIFORMES: Struthionidae		
Common Ostrich	Struthio camelus	
ANSERIFORMES: Anatidae		
White-faced Whistling-Duck	Dendrocygna viduata	
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	Dendrocygna bicolor	
Egyptian Goose	Alopochen aegyptiaca	
Spur-winged Goose	Plectropterus gambensis	
Hottentot Teal	Spatula hottentota	
African Black Duck	Anas sparsa	
Yellow-billed Duck	Anas undulata	
Cape Teal	Anas capensis	
Red-billed Duck (Teal)	Anas erythrorhyncha	
Southern Pochard	Netta erythrophthalma	
GALLIFORMES: Numididae	<u></u>	
Helmeted Guineafowl	Numida meleagris	
GALLIFORMES: Phasianidae		
Scaly Francolin	Pternistis squamatus	
Hildebrandt's Francolin	Pternistis hildebrandti	
Yellow-necked Francolin	Pternistis leucoscepus	
Gray-breasted Francolin	Pternistis rufopictus	
Red-necked Francolin	Pternistis afer	
Crested Francolin	Dendroperdix sephaena	
Coqui Francolin	Peliperdix coqui	
Shelley's Francolin	Scleroptila shelleyi	
PHOENICOPTERIFORMES: Phoenicopteridae		
Greater Flamingo	Phoenicopterus roseus	
Lesser Flamingo	Phoeniconaias minor	
PODICIPEDIFORMES: Podicipedidae		
Little Grebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis	
Eared (Black-necked) Grebe	Podiceps nigricollis	



COLUMBIFORMES: Columbidae		
Rock Pigeon	Columba livia	
Speckled Pigeon	Columba guinea	
Rameron (Olive) Pigeon	Columba arquatrix	
Delegorgue's (E. Bronze-naped) Pigeon	Columba delegorguei	
Lemon Dove	Columba larvata	
Dusky Turtle-Dove	Streptopelia lugens	
(African) Mourning Collared-Dove	Streptopelia decipiens	
Red-eyed Dove	Streptopelia semitorquata	
Ring-necked Dove	Streptopelia capicola	
Laughing Dove	Streptopelia senegalensis	
Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove	Turtur chalcospilos	
Blue-spotted Wood-Dove	Turtur afer	
Tambourine Dove	Turtur tympanistria	Н
Namaqua Dove	Oena capensis	
Pemba Green-Pigeon	Treron pembaensis	
African Green-Pigeon	Treron calvus	
PTEROCLIFORMES: Pteroclidae		
Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse	Pterocles exustus	
Yellow-throated Sandgrouse	Pterocles gutturalis	
Black-faced Sandgrouse	Pterocles decoratus	
OTIDIFORMES: Otididae		
Kori Bustard	Ardeotis kori	
White-bellied Bustard	Eupodotis senegalensis	
Buff-crested Bustard	Eupodotis gindiana	
Black-bellied Bustard	Lissotis melanogaster	
MUSOPHAGIFORMES: Musophagidae		
Schalow's Turaco	Tauraco schalowi	
Fischer's Turaco	Tauraco fischeri	
Hartlaub's Turaco	Tauraco hartlaubi	
Purple-crested Turaco	Tauraco porphyreolophus	
Bare-faced Go-away-bird	Corythaixoides personatus	
White-bellied Go-away-bird	Corythaixoides leucogaster	
CUCULIFORMES: Cuculidae		
White-browed Coucal	Centropus superciliosus	



Black Coucal	Centropus grillii	
Green Malkoha (Yellowbill)	Ceuthmochares aereus	Н
Great Spotted Cuckoo	Clamator glandarius	
Levaillant's Cuckoo	Clamator levaillantii	
Pied (Black-and-White) Cuckoo	Clamator jacobinus	
Dideric Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx caprius	
Klaas's Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx klaas	
African Emerald Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx cupreus	Н
Red-chested Cuckoo	Cuculus solitarius	
African Cuckoo	Cuculus gularis	
Common Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus	
CAPRIMULGIFORMES: Caprimulgidae		
Rwenzori (Usambara) Nightjar	Caprimulgus guttifer	
Slender-tailed Nightjar	Caprimulgus clarus	
Square-tailed (Mozambique) Nightjar	Caprimulgus fossii	
CAPRIMULGIFORMES: Apodidae		
Mottled Spinetail	Telacanthura ussheri	
Bohm's Spinetail	Neafrapus boehmi	
Scarce Swift	Schoutedenapus myoptilus	
Alpine Swift	Apus melba	
Mottled Swift	Apus aequatorialis	
Common (Eurasian) Swift	Apus apus	
Nyanza Swift	Apus niansae	
African (Black) Swift	Apus barbatus	
Little Swift	Apus affinis	
Horus Swift	Apus horus	
White-rumped Swift	Apus caffer	
African Palm-Swift	Cypsiurus parvus	
GRUIFORMES: Rallidae		
Black Crake	Zapornia flavirostra	
African (Purple) Swamphen	Porphyrio madagascariensis	
Eurasian (Common) Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus	
Red-knobbed Coot	Fulica cristata	
GRUIFORMES: Gruidae		
Gray Crowned-Crane	Balearica regulorum	



CHARADRIIFORMES: Burhinidae		
Water Thick-knee	Burhinus vermiculatus	
Spotted Thick-knee	Burhinus capensis	
CHARADRIIFORMES: Recurvirostridae		
Black-winged Stilt	Himantopus himantopus	
CHARADRIIFORMES: Charadriidae		
Black-bellied (Grey) Plover	Pluvialis squatarola	
Long-toed Lapwing	Vanellus crassirostris	
Blacksmith Lapwing	Vanellus armatus	
Spur-winged Lapwing	Vanellus spinosus	
Senegal Lapwing	Vanellus lugubris	
Black-winged Lapwing	Vanellus melanopterus	
Crowned Lapwing	Vanellus coronatus	
Kittlitz's Plover	Charadrius pecuarius	
Common Ringed Plover	Charadrius hiaticula	
Three-banded Plover	Charadrius tricollaris	
Chestnut-banded Plover	Charadrius pallidus	
CHARADRIIFORMES: Rostratulidae		
Greater Painted-Snipe	Actophilornis africanus	
CHARADRIIFORMES: Jacanidae		
African Jacana	Actophilornis africanus	
CHARADRIIFORMES: Scolopacidae		
Whimbrel	Numenius phaeopus	
Ruddy Turnstone	Arenaria interpres	
Ruff	Calidris pugnax	
Curlew Sandpiper	Calidris ferruginea	
Little Stint	Calidris minuta	
Common Snipe	Gallinago gallinago	
Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos	
Green Sandpiper	Tringa ochropus	
Common Greenshank	Tringa nebularia	
Marsh Sandpiper	Tringa stagnatilis	
Wood Sandpiper	Tringa glareola	
CHARADRIIFORMES: Glareolidae		
Temminck's Courser	Cursorius temminckii	



Double (Two-) -banded Courser	Smutsornis africanus	
Three-banded Courser	Rhinoptilus cinctus	
Bronze-winged Courser	Rhinoptilus chalcopterus	
Collared Pratincole	Glareola pratincola	
CHARADRIIFORMES: Laridae		
Gray-hooded Gull	Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus	
Saunders's Tern	Sternula saundersi	
Gull-billed Tern	Gelochelidon nilotica	
White-winged Tern	Chlidonias leucopterus	
Whiskered Tern	Chlidonias hybrida	
Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	
White-cheeked Tern	Sterna repressa	
Great Crested Tern	Thalasseus bergii	
Lesser Crested Tern	Thalasseus bengalensis	
CICONIIFORMES: Ciconiidae		
African (Open-billed Stork) Openbill	Anastomus lamelligerus	
Black Stork	Ciconia nigra	
Abdim's Stork	Ciconia abdimii	
White Stork	Ciconia ciconia	
Saddle-billed Stork	Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis	
Marabou Stork	Leptoptilos crumenifer	
Yellow-billed Stork	Mycteria ibis	
SULIFORMES: Phalacrocoracidae		
Long-tailed (Reed) Cormorant	Microcarbo africanus	
Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo	
PELECANIFORMES: Pelecanidae		
Great White Pelican	Pelecanus onocrotalus	
Pink-backed Pelican	Pelecanus rufescens	
PELECANIFORMES: Scopidae		
Hamerkop	Scopus umbretta	
PELECANIFORMES: Ardeidae		
Little Bittern	Ixobrychus minutus	
Gray Heron	Ardea cinerea	
Black-headed Heron	Ardea melanocephala	
Goliath Heron	Ardea goliath	



Great Egret	Ardea alba	
Intermediate (Yellow-billed) Egret	Ardea intermedia	
Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	
Western Reef-Heron	Egretta gularis	
Black Heron (Egret)	Egretta ardesiaca	
Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis	
(Common) Squacco Heron	Ardeola ralloides	
Rufous-bellied Heron	Ardeola rufiventris	
Striated (Green-back) Heron	Butorides striata	
Black-crowned Night-Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	
PELECANIFORMES: Threskiornithidae		
Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus	
Sacred Ibis	Threskiornis aethiopicus	
Hadada Ibis	Bostrychia hagedash	
African Spoonbill	Platalea alba	
ACCIPITRIFORMES: Sagittariidae		
Secretarybird	Sagittarius serpentarius	
ACCIPITRIFORMES: Accipitridae		
Black-shouldered (-winged) Kite	Elanus caeruleus	
African Harrier-Hawk	Polyboroides typus	
Palm-nut Vulture	Gypohierax angolensis	
White-headed Vulture	Trigonoceps occipitalis	
Lappet-faced Vulture	Torgos tracheliotos	
Hooded Vulture	Necrosyrtes monachus	
(African) White-backed Vulture	Gyps africanus	
Rüppell's Griffon	Gyps rueppelli	
Bateleur	Terathopius ecaudatus	
Black-breasted (-chested) Snake-Eagle	Circaetus pectoralis	
Brown Snake-Eagle	Circaetus cinereus	
(African) Crowned Eagle	Stephanoaetus coronatus	
Martial Eagle	Polemaetus bellicosus	
Long-crested Eagle	Lophaetus occipitalis	
Lesser Spotted Eagle	Clanga pomarina	
Wahlberg's Eagle	Hieraaetus wahlbergi	
Booted Eagle	Hieraaetus pennatus	



Ayres's Hawk-Eagle	Hieraaetus ayresii	
Tawny Eagle	Aquila rapax	
Steppe Eagle	Aquila nipalensis	
African Hawk-Eagle	Aquila spilogaster	
Lizard Buzzard	Kaupifalco monogrammicus	
Dark Chanting-Goshawk	Melierax metabates	
Eastern Chanting-Goshawk	Melierax poliopterus	
Gabar Goshawk	Micronisus gabar	
Grasshopper Buzzard	Butastur rufipennis	
Eurasian (Western) Marsh-Harrier	Circus aeruginosus	
African Marsh-Harrier	Circus ranivorus	
Pallid Harrier	Circus macrourus	
Montagu's Harrier	Circus pygargus	
African Goshawk	Accipiter tachiro	
Little Sparrowhawk	Accipiter minullus	
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	Accipiter nisus	
Black Goshawk (Great Sparrowhawk)	Accipiter melanoleucus	
Black Kite	Milvus migrans	
African Fish-Eagle	Haliaeetus vocifer	
Common (Eurasian) Buzzard	Buteo buteo	
Mountain Buzzard	Buteo oreophilus	
Augur Buzzard	Buteo augur	
STRIGIFORMES: Tytonidae		
Barn Owl	Tyto alba	
STRIGIFORMES: Strigidae		
Pemba Scops-Owl	Otus pembaensis	
African Scops-Owl	Otus senegalensis	
Spotted Eagle-Owl		
Usambara Eagle-Owl	Bubo vosseleri	Н
Verreaux's Eagle-Owl	Bubo lacteus	
Pearl-spotted Owlet	Glaucidium perlatum	
African Wood-Owl	Strix woodfordii	
COLIIFORMES: Coliidae		
Speckled Mousebird	Colius striatus	
White-headed Mousebird	Colius leucocephalus	



Blue-naped Mousebird	Urocolius macrourus
TROGONIFORMES: Trogonidae	
Narina Trogon	Apaloderma narina
Bar-tailed Trogon	Apaloderma vittatum
BUCEROTIFORMES: Upupidae	
Eurasian (African) Hoopoe	Upupa epops/africana
BUCEROTIFORMES: Phoeniculidae	
Green Woodhoopoe	Phoeniculus purpureus
Common Scimitarbill	Rhinopomastus cyanomelas
Abyssinian Scimitarbill	Rhinopomastus minor
BUCEROTIFORMES: Bucorvidae	
Southern Ground-Hornbill	Bucorvus leadbeateri
BUCEROTIFORMES: Bucerotidae	
Crowned Hornbill	Lophoceros alboterminatus
African Gray Hornbill	Lophoceros nasutus
Von der Decken's Hornbill	Tockus deckeni
Tanzanian Red-billed Hornbill	Tockus ruahae
(Northern) Red-billed Hornbill	Tockus erythrorhynchus
Silvery-cheeked Hornbill	Bycanistes brevis
Trumpeter Hornbill	Bycanistes bucinator
CORACIIFORMES: Alcedinidae	
Half-collared Kingfisher	Alcedo semitorquata
Malachite Kingfisher	Corythornis cristatus
African Pygmy-Kingfisher	Ispidina picta
Gray-headed Kingfisher	Halcyon leucocephala
Woodland Kingfisher	Halcyon senegalensis
Mangrove Kingfisher	Halcyon senegaloides
Brown-hooded Kingfisher	Halcyon albiventris
Striped Kingfisher	Halcyon chelicuti
Giant Kingfisher	Megaceryle maxima
Pied Kingfisher	Ceryle rudis
CORACIIFORMES: Meropidae	
White-fronted Bee-eater	Merops bullockoides
Little Bee-eater	Merops pusillus
Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater	Merops oreobates



White-throated Bee-eater	Merops albicollis	
Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	Merops persicus	
Madagascar (Olive) Bee-eater	Merops superciliosus	
European Bee-eater	Merops apiaster	
Northern Carmine Bee-eater	Merops nubicus	
CORACIIFORMES: Coraciidae		
European Roller	Coracias garrulus	
Lilac-breasted Roller	Coracias caudatus	
Rufous-crowned (Purple) Roller	Coracias naevius	
Broad-billed Roller	Eurystomus glaucurus	
PICIFORMES: Lybiidae		
Red-and-yellow Barbet	Trachyphonus erythrocephalus	
D'Amaud's Barbet (inc. Usambiro Barbet)	Trachyphonus damaudii	
White-eared Barbet	Stactolaema leucotis	
Green Barbet	Stactolaema (Cryptolybia) olivacea	
(Eastern) Green Tinkerbird	Pogoniulus simplex	
Moustached (Green) Tinkerbird	Pogoniulus leucomystax	
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	Pogoniulus bilineatus	
Red-fronted Tinkerbird	Pogoniulus pusillus	
Red-fronted Barbet	Tricholaema diademata	
Spot-flanked Barbet	Tricholaema lacrymosa	
Black-throated Barbet	Tricholaema melanocephala	
White-headed Barbet	Lybius leucocephalus	
Brown-breasted Barbet	Lybius (Pogonornis) melanopterus	
PICIFORMES: Indicatoridae		
Eastern (Green-backed) Honeyguide	Prodotiscus zambesiae	н
Pallid / Lesser Honeyguide	Indicator meliphilus / minor	
Scaly-throated Honeyguide	Indicator variegatus	Н
Greater Honeyguide	Indicator indicator	
PICIFORMES: Picidae		
Nubian Woodpecker	Campethera nubica	
Mombasa Woodpecker	Campethera mombassica	
Green-backed (Little Spotted) Woodpecker	Campethera cailliautii	
Cardinal Woodpecker	Dendropicos fuscescens	
Bearded Woodpecker	Dendropicos namaquus	



Mountain Gray Woodpecker	Dendropicos spodocephalus	
FALCONIFORMES: Falconidae	,	
(African) Pygmy Falcon	Polihierax semitorquatus	
Lesser Kestrel	Falco naumanni	
Eurasian Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus	
Greater Kestrel	Falco rupicoloides	
Gray Kestrel	Falco ardosiaceus	
Dickinson's Kestrel	Falco dickinsoni	
Red-necked Falcon	Falco chicquera	
Amur Falcon	Falco amurensis	
Eurasian Hobby	Falco subbuteo	
Lanner Falcon	Falco biarmicus	
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus	
PSITTACIFORMES: Psittaculidae		
Fischer's Lovebird	Agapornis fischeri	
Yellow-collared Lovebird	Agapornis personatus	
PSITTACIFORMES: Psittacidae		
Red-fronted Parrot	Poicephalus gulielmi	
Meyer's (Brown) Parrot	Poicephalus meyeri	
(Af. Orange-bellied) Red-bellied Parrot	Poicephalus rufiventris	
PASSERIFORMES: Calyptomenidae		
African Broadbill	Smithornis capensis	
PASSERIFORMES: Platysteiridae		
Black-throated Wattle-eye	Platysteira peltata	
(Forest) Short-tailed Batis	Batis mixta	
Chinspot Batis	Batis molitor	
(East Coast) Pale Batis	Batis soror	
Pygmy Batis	Batis perkeo	
PASSERIFORMES: Vangidae		
White(-crested) Helmetshrike	Prionops plumatus	
Chestnut-fronted Helmetshrike	Prionops scopifrons	
Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher	Bias musicus	
PASSERIFORMES: Malaconotidae		
Brubru	Nilaus afer	
Black-backed Puffback	Dryoscopus cubla	



Black-crowned Tchagra	Tchagra senegalus
Brown-crowned Tchagra	Tchagra australis
Tropical Boubou	Laniarius major
Zanzibar Boubou	Laniearius sublacteus
Slate-colored Boubou	Laniarius funebris
Fülleborn's Boubou	Laniarius fuelleborni
Rosy-patched Bushshrike	Rhodophoneus cruentus
Sulphur- (Orange-) breasted Bushshrike	Telophorus sulfureopectus
Black-fronted Bushshrike	Telophorus nigrifrons
PASSERIFORMES: Campephagidae	and the second s
Gray Cuckooshrike	Coracina caesia
Black Cuckooshrike	Campephaga flava
PASSERIFORMES: Laniidae	
Red-backed Shrike	Lanius collurio
Red-tailed Shrike	Lanius phoenicuroides
Isabelline Shrike	Lanius isabellinus
Lesser Gray Shrike	Lanius minor
Gray-backed Fiscal	Lanius excubitoroides
Long-tailed Fiscal	Lanius cabanisi
Taita Fiscal	Lanius dorsalis
Northern Fiscal	Lanius humeralis
Magpie Shrike	Corvinella melanoleuca
White-rumped (Northern White-crowned) Shrike	Eurocephalus ruppelli
PASSERIFORMES: Oriolidae	
Eurasian Golden Oriole	Oriolus oriolus
Green-headed Oriole	Oriolus chlorocephalus
African (Eastern) Black-headed Oriole	Oriolus larvatus
PASSERIFORMES: Dicruridae	
Square-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus ludwigii
Fork-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus adsimilis
"Usambara" Drongo	Dicrurus sp. (undescribed)
PASSERIFORMES: Monarchidae	
African (Eastern) Crested-Flycatcher	Trochocercus cyanomelas
African Paradise-Flycatcher	Terpsiphone viridis



PASSERIFORMES: Corvidae	
House Crow	Corvus splendens
Cape (Rook) Crow	Corvus capensis
Pied Crow	Corvus albus
White-necked Raven	Corvus albicollis
PASSERIFORMES: Nicatoridae	
Eastern Nicator	Nicator gularis
PASSERIFORMES: Alaudidae	
Beesley's Lark (Spike-heeled Lark)	Chersomanes beesleyi
Fischer's Sparrow-Lark	Eremopterix leucopareia
Pink-breasted Lark	Calendulauda poecilosterna
Foxy (Fawn-colored) Lark	Calendulauda alopex
Rufous-naped Lark	Mirafra africana
Flappet Lark	Mirafra rufocinnamomea
White-tailed Lark	Mirafra albicauda
Singing Bushlark	Mirafra cantillans
Red-capped Lark	Calandrella cinerea
Somali Short-toed Lark	Alaudala somalica
Short-tailed Lark	Spizocorys fremantlii
PASSERIFORMES: Hirundinidae	
(African) Plain Martin	Riparia paludicola
Bank Swallow (Collared Sand Martin)	Riparia riparia
Banded Martin	Riparia cincta
(Large) Rock Martin	Ptyonoprogne fuligula
Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica
Red-chested Swallow	Hirundo lucida
Wire-tailed Swallow	Hirundo smithii
Red-rumped Swallow	Cecropis daurica
Lesser Striped-Swallow	Cecropis abyssinica
Mosque Swallow	Cecropis senegalensis
Common House-Martin	Delichon urbicum
White-headed Sawwing	Psalidoprocne albiceps
Black Sawwing	Psalidoprocne pristoptera
PASSERIFORMES: Stenostiridae	
White-tailed Crested-Flycatcher	Elminia albonotata



PASSERIFORMES: Paridae	
White-bellied Tit	Melaniparus albiventris
Red-throated Tit	Melaniparus fringillinus
PASSERIFORMES: Remizidae	
African (Gray) Penduline-Tit	Anthoscopus caroli
PASSERIFORMES: Pycnonotidae	
(Zanzibar) Sombre Greenbul	Andropadus importunus
Shelley's Greenbull	Andropadus masukuensis
(Eastern) Mountain-Greenbul	Arizelocichla nigriceps
Stripe-cheeked Greenbul	Arizelocichla milanjensis
Yellow-bellied Greenbul	Chlorocichla flaviventris
Little Greenbul	Eurillas virens
Northern Brownbul	Phyllastrephus strepitans
Gray-olive Greenbul	Phyllastrephus cerviniventris
Cabanis's Greenbul	Phyllastrephus cabanisi
Yellow-streaked Greenbul	Phyllastrephus flavostriatus
Common Bulbul	Pycnonotus barbatus
PASSERIFORMES: Macrosphenidae	
Northern Crombec	Sylvietta brachyura
Somali Crombec	Sylvietta isabellina
Red-faced Crombec	Sylvietta whytii
Moustached Grass-Warbler	Melocichla mentalis
Kretschmer's Longbill	Macrosphenus kretschmeri
PASSERIFORMES: Scotocercidae	
(Little) Yellow Flycatcher	Erythrocercus holochlorus
PASSERIFORMES: Phylloscopidae	
Yellow-throated Woodland-Warbler	Phylloscopus ruficapilla
Brown Woodland-Warbler	Phylloscopus umbrovirens
Willow Warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus
PASSERIFORMES: Acrocephalidae	
(Eastern) Olivaceous Warbler	Iduna pallida
African (Dark-capped) Yellow-Warbler	Iduna natalensis
Mountain Yellow-Warbler	Iduna similis
Upcher's Warbler	Hippolais languida
Eurasian (Common) Reed Warbler	Acrocephalus scirpaceus



Lesser Swamp Warbler	Acrocephalus gracilirostris	
PASSERIFORMES: Locustellidae		
Evergreen-forest Warbler	Bradypterus lopezi	
Cinnamon Bracken-Warbler	Bradypterus cinnamomeus	
Little Rush-Warbler	Bradypterus baboecala	Н
PASSERIFORMES: Cisticolidae		
Bar-throated Apalis	Apalis thoracica	
Yellow-breasted Apalis	Apalis flavida	
Black-headed Apalis	Apalis melanocephala	
Brown-headed Apalis	Apalis alticola	
Karamoja Apalis	Apalis karamojae	Н
Green-backed (Bleating) Camaroptera	Camaroptera brachyura	
Red-fronted Warbler (Prinia)	Urorhipis rufifrons	
Gray Wren-Warbler	Calamonastes simplex	
African Tailorbird (Rc. Forest-warbler)	Artisornis metopias	
Long-billed Tailorbird (Forest-warbler)	Artisornis moreaui	
Red-faced Cisticola	Cisticola erythrops	
Singing Cisticola	Cisticola cantans	
Trilling Cisticola	Cisticola woosnami	
Hunter's Cisticola	Cisticola hunteri	
Rock-loving (Lazy) Cisticola	Cisticola aberrans	
Rattling Cisticola	Cisticola chiniana	
Ashy Cisticola	Cisticola cinereolus	
Winding Cisticola	Cisticola galactotes	
Stout Cisticola	Cisticola robustus	
Croaking Cisticola	Cisticola natalensis	
Tabora Cisticola	Cisticola angusticauda	
Tiny Cisticola	Cisticola nana	
Zitting Cisticola	Cisticola juncidis	
Desert Cisticola	Cisticola aridulus	
Pectoral-patch Cisticola	Cisticola brunnescens	
Gray-capped Warbler	Eminia lepida	
Buff-bellied Warbler	Phyllolais pulchella	
Tawny-flanked Prinia	Prinia subflava	
Yellow-bellied Eremomela	Eremomela icteropygialis	



PASSERIFORMES: Sylviidae		
African Hill Babbler	Sylvia abyssinica	
(Eurasian) Blackcap	Sylvia atricapilla	
Garden Warbler	Sylvia borin	
Banded Warbler (Parisoma)	Sylvia boehmi	
Brown Warbler (Parisoma)	Sylvia lugens	
Greater (Common) Whitethroat	Sylvia communis	
PASSERIFORMES: Zosteropidae		
Broad-ringed (Montane) White-eye	Zosterops poliogastrus	
White-breasted (Abyssinian) White-eye	Zosterops abyssinicus	
Pemba White-eye	Zosterops vaughani	
PASSERIFORMES: Leiothrichidae	<u></u>	
Scaly Chatterer	Turdoides aylmeri	
Black-lored Babbler	Turdoides sharpei	
Northern Pied-Babbler	Turdoides hypoleuca	
Arrow-marked Babbler	Turdoides jardineii	
PASSERIFORMES: Modulatricidae		
Spot-throat	Modulatrix stictigula	
PASSERIFORMES: Hyliotidae		
PASSERIFORMES: Hyliotidae Usambara (Southern) Hyliota	Hyliota usambara	NL
•	Hyliota usambara	NL
Usambara (Southern) Hyliota	Hyliota usambara Muscicapa adusta	NL
Usambara (Southern) Hyliota PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae		NL
Usambara (Southern) Hyliota PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae (African Dusky) Dusky-brown Flycatcher	Muscicapa adusta	NL
Usambara (Southern) Hyliota PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae (African Dusky) Dusky-brown Flycatcher Spotted Flycatcher	Muscicapa adusta Muscicapa striata	NL
Usambara (Southern) Hyliota PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae (African Dusky) Dusky-brown Flycatcher Spotted Flycatcher (African Gray) Grayish Flycatcher	Muscicapa adusta Muscicapa striata Bradornis microrhynchus	NL
Usambara (Southern) Hyliota PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae (African Dusky) Dusky-brown Flycatcher Spotted Flycatcher (African Gray) Grayish Flycatcher Ashy Flycatcher	Muscicapa adusta Muscicapa striata Bradornis microrhynchus Fraseria caerulescens	NL
Usambara (Southern) Hyliota PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae (African Dusky) Dusky-brown Flycatcher Spotted Flycatcher (African Gray) Grayish Flycatcher Ashy Flycatcher Silverbird	Muscicapa adusta Muscicapa striata Bradornis microrhynchus Fraseria caerulescens Melaenornis semipartitus	NL
Usambara (Southern) Hyliota PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae (African Dusky) Dusky-brown Flycatcher Spotted Flycatcher (African Gray) Grayish Flycatcher Ashy Flycatcher Silverbird Southern Black-Flycatcher	Muscicapa adusta Muscicapa striata Bradornis microrhynchus Fraseria caerulescens Melaenornis semipartitus Melaenornis pammelaina	NL
Usambara (Southern) Hyliota PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae (African Dusky) Dusky-brown Flycatcher Spotted Flycatcher (African Gray) Grayish Flycatcher Ashy Flycatcher Silverbird Southern Black-Flycatcher White-eyed Slaty-Flycatcher	Muscicapa adusta Muscicapa striata Bradornis microrhynchus Fraseria caerulescens Melaenornis semipartitus Melaenornis pammelaina Melaenornis fischeri	NL
Usambara (Southern) Hyliota PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae (African Dusky) Dusky-brown Flycatcher Spotted Flycatcher (African Gray) Grayish Flycatcher Ashy Flycatcher Silverbird Southern Black-Flycatcher White-eyed Slaty-Flycatcher (White-browed) Red-backed Scrub-Robin	Muscicapa adusta Muscicapa striata Bradornis microrhynchus Fraseria caerulescens Melaenornis semipartitus Melaenornis pammelaina Melaenornis fischeri Cercotrichas leucophrys	NL
Usambara (Southern) Hyliota PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae (African Dusky) Dusky-brown Flycatcher Spotted Flycatcher (African Gray) Grayish Flycatcher Ashy Flycatcher Silverbird Southern Black-Flycatcher White-eyed Slaty-Flycatcher (White-browed) Red-backed Scrub-Robin Cape Robin-Chat	Muscicapa adusta Muscicapa striata Bradornis microrhynchus Fraseria caerulescens Melaenornis semipartitus Melaenornis pammelaina Melaenornis fischeri Cercotrichas leucophrys Cossypha caffra	NL
Usambara (Southern) Hyliota PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae (African Dusky) Dusky-brown Flycatcher Spotted Flycatcher (African Gray) Grayish Flycatcher Ashy Flycatcher Silverbird Southern Black-Flycatcher White-eyed Slaty-Flycatcher (White-browed) Red-backed Scrub-Robin Cape Robin-Chat Rüppell's Robin-Chat	Muscicapa adusta Muscicapa striata Bradornis microrhynchus Fraseria caerulescens Melaenornis semipartitus Melaenornis pammelaina Melaenornis fischeri Cercotrichas leucophrys Cossypha caffra Cossypha semirufa	NL
Usambara (Southern) Hyliota PASSERIFORMES: Muscicapidae (African Dusky) Dusky-brown Flycatcher Spotted Flycatcher (African Gray) Grayish Flycatcher Ashy Flycatcher Silverbird Southern Black-Flycatcher White-eyed Slaty-Flycatcher (White-browed) Red-backed Scrub-Robin Cape Robin-Chat Rüppell's Robin-Chat White-browed Robin-Chat	Muscicapa adusta Muscicapa striata Bradornis microrhynchus Fraseria caerulescens Melaenornis semipartitus Melaenornis pammelaina Melaenornis fischeri Cercotrichas leucophrys Cossypha caffra Cossypha semirufa Cossypha heuglini	NL



White-starred Robin	Pogonocichla stellata	
White-chested Alethe	Pseudalethe fuelleborni	
Sharpe's Akalat	Sheppardia sharpei	
Usambara Akalat	Sheppardia montana	
White-throated Robin (Irania)	Irania gutturalis	
Thrush Nightingale	Luscinia luscinia	
(Common) Nightingale	Luscinia megarhynchos	
Rufous-tailed (Common) Rock-Thrush	Monticola saxatilis	
Whinchat	Saxicola rubetra	
African (Common) Stonechat	Saxicola torquatus	
Northern Anteater-Chat	Myrmecocichla aethiops	
(Mocking) Cliff-Chat	Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris	
Familiar Chat	Cercomela familiaris	
Northern Wheatear	Oenanthe oenanthe	
Abyssinian (Schalow's) Wheatear	Oenanthe lugubris schalowi	
Pied Wheatear	Oenanthe pleschanka	
Capped Wheatear	Oenanthe pileata	
Isabelline Wheatear	Oenanthe isabellina	G
PASSERIFORMES: Turdidae	<u> </u>	
Red-tailed Ant-Thrush	Neocossyphus rufus	
Abyssinian (Olive) Thrush	Turdus abyssinicus	
	,	
Usambara (Olive) Thrush	Turdus roehli	
Usambara (Olive) Thrush (African) Bare-eyed Thrush		
·	Turdus roehli	
(African) Bare-eyed Thrush	Turdus roehli	
(African) Bare-eyed Thrush PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae	Turdus roehli Turdus tephronotus	
(African) Bare-eyed Thrush PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae Wattled Starling	Turdus roehli Turdus tephronotus Creatophora cinerea	
(African) Bare-eyed Thrush PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae Wattled Starling Violet-backed Starling	Turdus roehli Turdus tephronotus Creatophora cinerea Cinnyricinclus leucogaster	
(African) Bare-eyed Thrush PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae Wattled Starling Violet-backed Starling Red-winged Starling	Turdus roehli Turdus tephronotus Creatophora cinerea Cinnyricinclus leucogaster Onychognathus morio	
(African) Bare-eyed Thrush PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae Wattled Starling Violet-backed Starling Red-winged Starling Waller's Starling	Turdus roehli Turdus tephronotus Creatophora cinerea Cinnyricinclus leucogaster Onychognathus morio Onychognathus walleri	
(African) Bare-eyed Thrush PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae Wattled Starling Violet-backed Starling Red-winged Starling Waller's Starling Kenrick's Starling	Turdus roehli Turdus tephronotus Creatophora cinerea Cinnyricinclus leucogaster Onychognathus morio Onychognathus walleri Poeoptera kenricki	
(African) Bare-eyed Thrush PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae Wattled Starling Violet-backed Starling Red-winged Starling Waller's Starling Kenrick's Starling Black-bellied Starling	Turdus roehli Turdus tephronotus Creatophora cinerea Cinnyricinclus leucogaster Onychognathus morio Onychognathus walleri Poeoptera kenricki Notopholia corrusca	
(African) Bare-eyed Thrush PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae Wattled Starling Violet-backed Starling Red-winged Starling Waller's Starling Kenrick's Starling Black-bellied Starling Hildebrandt's Starling	Turdus roehli Turdus tephronotus Creatophora cinerea Cinnyricinclus leucogaster Onychognathus morio Onychognathus walleri Poeoptera kenricki Notopholia corrusca Lamprotornis hildebrandti	
(African) Bare-eyed Thrush PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae Wattled Starling Violet-backed Starling Red-winged Starling Waller's Starling Kenrick's Starling Black-bellied Starling Hildebrandt's Starling Rüppell's Starling	Turdus roehli Turdus tephronotus Creatophora cinerea Cinnyricinclus leucogaster Onychognathus morio Onychognathus walleri Poeoptera kenricki Notopholia corrusca Lamprotornis hildebrandti Lamprotornis purpuroptera	



Fischer's Starling	Lamprotornis fischeri	
Greater Blue-eared Starling	Lamprotornis chalybaeus	
PASSERIFORMES: Buphagidae		
Red-billed Oxpecker	Buphagus erythrorhynchus	
Yellow-billed Oxpecker	Buphagus africanus	
PASSERIFORMES: Nectariniidae		
Plain-backed Sunbird	Anthreptes reichenowi	
Kenya (Eastern) Violet-backed Sunbird	Anthreptes orientalis	
Uluguru Violet-backed Sunbird	Anthreptes neglectus	
Banded (Green) Sunbird	Anthreptes rubritorques	
Collared Sunbird	Hedydipna collaris	
Amani Sunbird	Hedydipna pallidigaster	
Olive Sunbird	Cyanomitra olivacea	
Amethyst Sunbird	Chalcomitra amethystina	
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	Chalcomitra senegalensis	
Hunter's Sunbird	Chalcomitra hunteri	
Tacazze Sunbird	Nectarinia tacazze	
Bronze Sunbird	Nectarinia kilimensis	
Malachite Sunbird	Nectarinia famosa	
Golden-winged Sunbird	Drepanorhynchus reichenowi	
Eastern Double-collared Sunbird	Cinnyris mediocris	
Beautiful Sunbird	Cinnyris pulchellus	
Mariqua Sunbird	Cinnyris mariquensis	
Purple-banded Sunbird	Cinnyris bifasciatus	
Tsavo Sunbird	Cinnyris tsavoensis	
Pemba (Violet-breasted) Sunbird	Cinnyris pembae	
Variable Sunbird	Cinnyris venustus	
PASSERIFORMES: Motacillidae		
(Western) Yellow Wagtail	Motacilla flava	
Gray Wagtail	Motacilla cinerea	
Mountain Wagtail	Motacilla clara	
African Pied Wagtail	Motacilla aguimp	
African (Grassland) Pipit	Anthus cinnamomeus	
Long-billed Pipit	Anthus similis	
Plain-backed Pipit	Anthus leucophrys	



Buffy Pipit	Anthus vaalensis
Tree Pipit	Anthus trivialis
Yellow-throated Longclaw	Macronyx croceus
Pangani Longclaw	Macronyx aurantiigula
Rosy-throated Longclaw	Macronyx ameliae
PASSERIFORMES: Fringillidae	
Oriole Finch	Linurgus olivaceus
Yellow-fronted Canary	Crithagra mozambica
Southern (East-African) Citril	Crithagra hyposticta
Reichenow's (Yellow-rumped) Seedeater	Crithagra reichenowi
White-bellied Canary	Crithagra dorsostriata
Southern Grosbeak-Canary	Crithagra buchanani
Streaky Seedeater	Crithagra striolata
Thick-billed Seedeater	Crithagra burtoni
Yellow-crowned Canary	Serinus flavivertex
PASSERIFORMES: Emberizidae	
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	Emberiza tahapisi
(African) Golden-breasted Bunting	Emberiza flaviventris
Somali (Golden-breasted) Bunting	Emberiza poliopleura
PASSERIFORMES: Passeridae	
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus
Kenya Rufous Sparrow	Passer rufocinctus
Northern Gray-headed Sparrow	Passer griseus
Swahili Sparrow	Passer suahelicus
Chestnut Sparrow	Passer eminibey
Yellow-spotted Petronia (Bush-sparrow)	Petronia pyrgita
PASSERIFORMES: Ploceidae	
Red-billed Buffalo-Weaver	Bubalornis niger
White-headed Buffalo-Weaver	Dinemellia dinemelli
Speckle-fronted Weaver	Sporopipes frontalis
White-browed Sparrow-Weaver	Plocepasser mahali
Rufous-tailed Weaver	Histurgops ruficauda
Gray-headed (-capped) Social-Weaver	Pseudonigrita arnaudi
(Southern) Red-headed Weaver	Anaplectes rubriceps
Baglafecht Weaver	Ploceus baglafecht



Little Weaver	Ploceus luteolus	
Black-necked Weaver	Ploceus nigricollis	
Spectacled Weaver	Ploceus ocularis	
African Golden-Weaver	Ploceus subaureus	
Holub's Golden-Weaver	Ploceus xanthops	
Taveta Golden-Weaver	Ploceus castaneiceps	
Lesser Masked-Weaver	Ploceus intermedius	
Vitelline Masked-Weaver	Ploceus vitellinus	
Speke's Weaver	Ploceus spekei	
Village Weaver	Ploceus cucullatus	
Golden-backed Weaver	Ploceus jacksoni	
Chestnut Weaver	Ploceus rubiginosus	
Forest (Dark-backed) Weaver	Ploceus bicolor	
Red-billed Quelea	Quelea quelea	
Southern Red Bishop	Euplectes orix	
Zanzibar Red Bishop	Euplectes nigroventris	
Black-winged Bishop	Euplectes hordeaceus	
Black Bishop	Euplectes gierowii	
Yellow-crowned Bishop	Euplectes afer	
Yellow Bishop	Euplectes capensis	
White-winged Widowbird	Euplectes albonotatus	
Red-collared Widowbird	Euplectes ardens	
Fan-tailed Widowbird	Euplectes axillaris	
Jackson's Widowbird	Euplectes jacksoni	
Grosbeak (Thick-billed) Weaver	Amblyospiza albifrons	
PASSERIFORMES: Estrildidae		
Gray-headed Nigrita	Nigrita canicapillus	
Yellow-bellied Waxbill	Coccopygia quartinia	
Green (-backed) Twinspot	Mandingoa nitidula	
Abyssinian Crimsonwing	Cryptospiza salvadorii	
Red-faced Crimsonwing	Cryptospiza reichenovii	
Crimson-rumped Waxbill	Estrilda rhodopyga	
Common Waxbill	Estrilda astrild	
Black-faced Waxbill	Estrilda erythronotos	
Southern Cordonbleu	Uraeginthus angolensis	



Uraeginthus bengalus	
Uraeginthus cyanocephalus	
Granatina ianthinogaster	
Hypargos niveoguttatus	
Pytilia melba	
Lagonosticta senegala	
Lagonosticta rubricata	
Amadina fasciata	
Ortygospiza fuscocrissa	
Odontospiza griseicapilla	
Spermestes cucullata	
Spermestes bicolor	
Euodice cantans	
Vidua macroura	
Vidua hypocherina	
Vidua fischeri	
Vidua chalybeata	
Vidua purpurascens	
	Uraeginthus cyanocephalus Granatina ianthinogaster Hypargos niveoguttatus Pytilia melba Lagonosticta senegala Lagonosticta rubricata Amadina fasciata Ortygospiza fuscocrissa Odontospiza griseicapilla Spermestes cucullata Spermestes bicolor Euodice cantans Vidua macroura Vidua fischeri Vidua chalybeata

H = Heard-only

G = Guide-only

NL = not seen by TB guides



Cheetah, one of three big cats that we sighted multiple times on this tour.



MAMMAL LIST

Taxonomy and nomenclature follow *The Kingdon Field Guide to African Mammals* (Second Edition – 2015) by Jonathan Kingdon.

	
Guereza Pied Colobus	Colobus guereza
Angola Colobus	Colobus angolensis
Olive Baboon	Papio anubis
Yellow Baboon	Papio cynocephalus
Vervet Monkey	Cercopithecus aethiops pygerythrus
Blue Monkey	Cercopithicus (mitis) stuhlmanni
White-throated Monkey	Cercopithicus (mitis) albogularis
Greater Galago	Otolemur crassicaudatus
Senegal Galago	Galago senegalensis
Pemba Flying Fox	Pteropus voeltzkowi
Scrub Hare	Lepus saxatilis
Cape Hare	Lepus capensis
Zanj Sun Squirrel	Heliosciurus undulatus
Lushoto Mountain Squirrel	Paraxerus (lucifer) vexillarius
Red-bellied Bush Squirrel	Paraxerus palliatus
Unstriped Ground Squirrel	Xerus rutilus
Ochre Bush Squirrel	Paraxerus ochraceus
Unstriped Grass Rat	Arvicanthis niloticus
Acacia Rat	Thallomys paedulcus
Black Rat	Rattus rattus
Springhare	Pedetes capensis
Golden Jackal	Canis aureus
Black-backed Jackal	Canis mesomelas
Bat-eared Fox	Otocyon megalotis
African Wild Dog	Lycaon pictus
Spotted Hyaena	Crocuta crocuta
Common Genet	Genetta genetta
Wild Cat	Felis sylvestris
Serval	Felis serval
Leopard	Panthera pardus
Lion	Panthera leo
Cheetah	Acinonyx jubatus



Yellow-spotted Hyrax	Heterohyrax brucei	
Black-necked Rock Hyrax	Procavia johnstoni	
Southern Tree Hyrax	Dendrohyrax arboreus	
African Elephant	Loxodonta africana	
Boehm's Common Zebra	Equus quagga boehmi	
Black Rhinoceros	Diceros bicornis	
Hippopotamus	Hippopotamus amphibious	
Common Warthog	Phacochoerus africanus	
"Masai" Giraffe	Giraffa camelopardalis tippelskirchi	
Buffalo	Syncerus caffer	
Bushbuck	Tragelaphus sylvaticus	
Lesser Kudu	Tragelaphus imberbis	NL
Eland	Taurotragus oryx	
Klipspringer	Oreotragus oreotragus	
Suni	Nesotragus moschatus	
Harvey's Duiker	Cephalophus harveyi	
Blue Duiker	Philantomba monticola	
Steinbuck (Steenbok)	Raphicerus campestris	
Kirk's Dikdik	Madoqua kirkii	
Defassa Waterbuck	Kobus ellipsiprymnus defassa	
Common Waterbuck	Kobus ellipsiprymnus ellipsiprymnus	
Thompson's Gazelle	Eudorcas thomsoni	
Grant's Gazelle	Nanger granti	
Impala	Aepyceros melampus	
Торі	Damaliscus lunatus jimela	
Coke's Hartebeest (Kongoni)	Alcelaphus buselaphus cokei	
Brindled Gnu (Blue Wildebeest)	Connochaetes taurinus	
Beisa Oryx	Oryx beisa	
Banded Mongoose	Mungos mungo	
White-tailed Mongoose	Ichneumia albicauda	
Slender Mongoose	Herpestes sanguinea	
Dwarf Mongoose	Helogale parvula	

NL = not seen by TB guides



REPTILE LIST

	1
Leopard Tortoise	Geochelone paralis
Helmeted (Marsh) Terrapin	Pelomedusa subrufa
Tropical House Gecko	Hemidactylus mabouia
Tree Gecko	Hemidactylus platycephalus
Conradt's Dwarf Gecko	Lygodactylus conradti
Pemba Day Gecko	Phelsuma parkeri
Striped Skink	Trachylepis striata
Variable Skink	Trachylepis varia
Pemba Speckle-lipped Skink	Trachylepis albotaeniata
Rainbow Skink	Trachylepis quinquetaeniata
Jackson's Forest Lizard	Adolfus jacksoni
Speke's Sand Lizard	Heliobolus spekii
Southern Long-tailed Lizard	Takydromus sexlineatus
Blue-headed Tree Agama	Acanthocerus atricollis
Red-headed (Common) Rock Agama	Agama agama
Mwanza Flat-headed Agama	Agama mwanzae
White-throated Savanna Monitor	Varanus albigularis
Nile (Water) Monitor	Varanus niloticus
Nile Crocodile	Crocodylus niloticus
Flap-necked Chameleon	Chamaeleo dilepis
Fischer's Chameleon	Kinyongia fischeri
Puff Adder	Bitis arietans
Mole Snake	Pseudaspis cana

