South Africa
Kruger Extension I
31st January to 4th February 2018 (5 days)
Trip Report

Leopard by Wayne Jones

Trip report compiled by Tour Leader: Wayne Jones
Tour Summary

*Kruger National Park is known the world over as one of the top wildlife destinations on the planet, something we can all attest to after this trip! During our time in the park, we stayed two nights at the park’s headquarters, Skukuza, and two nights at the charming and quiet Berg-en-Dal, all the while exploring the southern and central sections of Kruger. We ended with a bird total of 189, with highlights including excellent sightings of Sterling’s Wren-Warbler, Bushveld Pipit, Southern Carmine Bee-eater, Southern Ground Hornbill, African Barred Owlet and Secretarybird. We saw 27 mammal species with almost too many magical moments to mention. Driving alongside 14 African Wild Dogs, watching Spotted Hyenas harassing a Leopard in a tree, observing a herd of drinking African Elephants, and four Cheetah siblings lounging on a rocky outcrop are just the first that come to mind!*

There are many routes to Kruger, but the scenic one is always the best! We passed through Sabie and lunched at Hazyview, where we also found Kurrichane Thrush and Southern Red Bishop. From there it was a short drive to Kruger Gate, with its massive bust of the great but grumpy-looking Paul Kruger. It was long before we saw our first African Elephant – an impressive and relaxed bull munching some small trees (as elephants are wont to do) right next to the road. Halfway to the camp, we came upon one of the just-requested targets: Southern Carmine Bee-eater perched on wires over the dry riverbed. Once at Skukuza, the park’s headquarters and largest camp, we met Marc, our local driver-guide, and transferred to his open-sided safari vehicle for our first game drive. We stopped at Lake Panic Bird Hide, and found two brutish-looking Grey-headed Bushshrikes in the car park. The hide itself offered up a wonderful selection of the park’s more common waterbirds, such as African Fish Eagle, Black Crake, African Jacana, Water Thick-knee, Three-banded Plover, Striated and Squacco Herons, Blacksmith Lapwing and Pied Kingfisher. After a much-needed downpour, we returned to the vehicle and decided to find a Leopard on a kill that had been reported earlier in the day. The rain had livened things up and the road was full of Leopard and Speke’s Hinged Tortoises (7 and 9, respectively!) drinking from puddles. Next, we found a male White Rhinoceros, and paused for a pair of very brief African Hawk-Eagles. By the time we reached the kill, we were informed that the big cat had climbed down from the tree just minutes before our arrival. All that was left was a dead Aardvark (looking very much like a deflated Aardvark balloon) draped over a branch. This in itself was noteworthy, because Aardvarks are VERY scarce animals in the park. Disappointed, we continued with our drive and were consoled by our own private sightings of two female Lions and a pair of Verreaux’s Eagle-Owls.
Our first point of call on our first full day in Kruger was another Leopard kill, news of which had been broadcast across the guides’ radios. Despite an already large audience, we scored a perfect spot from which to admire the gorgeous feline which was sitting with his Impala kill up in the tree. There were a number of Spotted Hyena’s around and we were incredibly fortunate to witness the interactions between the two species as the hyena’s naively thought they could actually jump up and reach the kill. The hyenas eventually left, at which point the Leopard slunk down the trunk and into some nearby bushes. What a show, and all before we’d even had breakfast!

We followed the main road north and came to a group of rather nervous-looking road workers keeping an eye on a magnificent male Lion patrolling nearby. Marc found us a roosting European Nightjar at Tshokwane picnic site, where we managed to avoid “donating” our lunch to the Vervet Monkeys and Greater Blue-eared Starlings. Orpen Dam was all but bone dry, although it still held a pair of stunning Saddle-billed Storks. We carefully scanned all Red-billed Oxpeckers until we found three of their Yellow-billed cousins on the larger mammals they prefer. We found a total of eight Southern Ground Hornbills, had our first of multiple sightings of the neatly-marked Cinnamon-breasted Bunting and were thrilled to see seven Mosque Swallows, an uncommon bird this far south in the park. We also saw three different immature raptors, all possum rather nicely out in the open – a common practice for a Martial Eagle, but quite unexpected from the Shikra and the Gabar Goshawk.

That night – and despite our excitable fellow passengers – our official night drive was quite a success. We saw African Barred Owlet, Western Barn Owl, another European Nightjar, three Central African Large-spotted Genets, Scrub Hare, three White Rhinos, a young Flap-necked Chameleon, a Lion and another Leopard! Not to mention a few Impalas!!

Day three saw us packing the vehicle to move down to Berg-en-dal camp for the next two nights. But first, we explored the eastern side of the park. When your day starts with African Wild Dogs, you know everything’s going to turn out just fine! Marc, who has studied the canines, anticipated their behaviour perfectly and we were afforded an unforgettable sighting of 14 of these creatures passing by the vehicle. One of the great things about Kruger is the spirit of cooperation and thus, a little further down the road, a fellow park visitor pointed out a Verreaux’s Eagle-Owl feasting on what appeared to be a nightjar.

At Sunset Dam, we found Yellow-billed Stork, African Spoonbill, White-crowned Lapwing, and Malachite Kingfisher before having brunch, or something along those lines, at beautiful Lower Sabie.
As with any day in the park, we enjoyed many raptor sightings, including Black-chested and Brown Snake Eagles, White-backed and Lappet-faced Vultures, Bateleur, Wahlberg’s and Tawny Eagles, Common Buzzard and, especially, a Secretarybird – which we were thrilled to see in flight. Other goodies from throughout the day included a female Greater Painted-snipe (I doubt that anyone on tour has had a closer view than that!), Giant Kingfisher, Green Wood Hoopoe, Crested and Black-collared Barbets, African Grey Hornbill, an immature Greater Honeyguide, Bearded Woodpecker, Chinspot Batis, Southern White-crowned Shrike, Eurasian Golden Oriole, Sombre Greenbul, Sterling’s Wren-Warbler, Wire-tailed Swallow, Lesser Masked Weaver, Black Sparrowhawk and a Bushveld Pipit.

“Tell us some more about the mammals”, I hear you say. Well, we saw three more Lions, Slender Mongoose, a total of 10 White Rhinos, African Buffalo, Common Wildebeest, full-body looks at Hippopotamus, Common Warthog, Plains Zebra, Smith’s Bush Squirrel and Chacma Baboon. Plus yet another Leopard; this time, a sweet-faced young female who seemed totally unfazed by the constant stream of admiring onlookers. And that night, almost ridiculously, we saw our fourth Leopard. We had gone to the fence of the camp to scan the waterhole with our spotlights when we noticed a male Leopard a couple of metres beyond the fence! He quickly moved off but we had good looks at him when he crossed some bare ground further away.

By our penultimate day in this fabulous park, we had few avian targets left, and we’d seen all the major mammals apart from Cheetah, so we embraced a more relaxed pace. Just outside the camp gate we had to turn around to fetch a forgotten item, a great stroke of luck that resulted in views of an Eastern Nicator, which was chased from its perch by a Grey-headed Bushshrike – it’s supposed doppelgänger according to the fieldguide. Back outside the camp, we notched up our second new bird for the day, a Grey-headed Kingfisher. For breakfast, we dined at Afsaal picnic site and then returned to Biyamiti Weir, where we’d seen the painted-snipe the day before. She wasn’t around, but we were treated to a water-level view of a herd of African Elephants drinking. It was especially cute watching one of the calves trying to figure out how this whole sucking-up-water-with-your-nose thing worked. Once everyone had drunk their fill, the matriarch waded across the water and within a minute or two she had led them back into the bush and out of sight. Also down by the water were a Black Stork and two Woolly-necked Storks. Although they seem about the same size, seeing the two side-by-side made us realise just how much bigger the Black Stork is.

In the early afternoon, we were driving back to camps so that we could switch back to the minibus and Marc could take his leave. Three or
so kilometres before the gate, two Cheetahs ran across the road! And they were quickly followed by two more! The felines moved into thicker woodland, complicating the matter, but eventually, we’d all obtained pretty good looks as they walked around and passed through gaps in the vegetation. Happy with our sighting, we started to pull off when we noticed one of the cats walking out on to a big, open piece of rock.

*Reverse! Reverse!!*

Pretty soon, the other three Cheetahs appeared on the rock. We watched them for over fifteen minutes. They weren’t doing particularly much – just standing up, sitting down, looking around, drinking from a puddle, flopping back down on to the rock – but whatever they did, they looked graceful. Elegance is simply a state of being for these creatures. Back at the camp, we said our goodbyes to Marc and explored the grounds of the camp while some rested. That night, a short stroll around the camp yielded Eastern Olive Toad at the swimming pool and African Scops Owl near the chalets. After seeing the Leopard so close the evening before, we were reluctant to do a full nocturnal exploration of the grounds!

On our last morning in Kruger, we did a spot of impromptu birding in the camp when a Little Sparrowhawk flew past. And after four days in the park, everyone finally had good looks at Brown-headed Parrots, which had been showing rather selectively until that point. We exited the park nearby Malelane Gate, stopping on the bridge over the Crocodile River for some last-minute birding and mammal watching. Our unscheduled breakfast spot outside Mbombela proved quite serendipitous, yielding Cut-throat Finch, Groundscraper Thrush, White-bellied Sunbird and Yellow-fronted Canary. None of us had experienced complimentary doughnuts with lattés before, the French toast was like none that had gone before and, continuing the theme of new experiences, some even tried chicken livers for the first time!

Continuing to Johannesburg, we paused at the Anglo-Boer war memorial of Berg-en-Dal, where we also saw circling White Storks. With time to spare, we visited Walter Sisulu Botanical Gardens on Johannesburg’s western side, primarily to look for the resident pair of Verreaux’s Eagles. We learned that they had unfortunately temporarily moved off, but we still enjoyed a marvellous meal and wandered the beautiful grounds, finding African Black Duck among a few other things. What a super way to wind down not only this incredible Kruger Extension, but also the 25-day Mega preceding it.
Annotated List of species recorded

Note: Number in brackets ( ) indicate number of days on the tour the species was recorded. List powered through the report generator of our partner iGoTerra.

Birds (189 in total: 186 seen, 3 heard)

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows Gill, F and D Donsker (Eds). 2017. IOC World Bird List (v 7.3).

Status codes: E = Endemic, NE = Near-endemic, I = Introduced

IUCN codes: CR = Critically endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, EW = Extinct in the Wild, NT = Near Threatened, DD = Data Deficient

Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl Anatidae

White-faced Whistling Duck
(2) Kruger NP 31.1 and Kruger NP 2.2.

Spur-winged Goose
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

Egyptian Goose
(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.

African Black Duck
(1) Walter Sisulu Botanical Garden 4.2.

Dendrocygna viduata
Plectropterus gambensis niger
Alopochen aegyptiaca
Anas sparsa sparsa

Guineafowl Numididae

Helmeted Guineafowl
(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.

Numida meleagris

Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies Phasianidae

Crested Francolin
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

Natal Spurfowl
(3) Kruger NP 31.1, Kruger NP 2.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

Swainson's Spurfowl
(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.

Dendroperdix sephaena sephaena
Pternistis natalensis natalensis
Pternistis swainsonii swainsonii

Storks Ciconiidae

Yellow-billed Stork
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

Black Stork
(1) Kruger NP 3.2.

Woolly-necked Stork (VU)
(1) Kruger NP 3.2.

White Stork
(2) Johannesburg to Kruger 31.1 and N4 Nelspruit - Pretoria 4.2.

Saddle-billed Stork
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

Marabou Stork
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

Ciconia ibis
Ciconia nigra
Ciconia episcopus microscelis
Ciconia ciconia ciconia
Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis
Leptoptilos crumenifer

Ibises and Spoonbills Threskiornithidae
### Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns *Ardeidae*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird</th>
<th>Place and Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hadada Ibis</strong></td>
<td><em>Bostrychia hagedash hagedash</em>&lt;br&gt; (3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>African Spoonbill</strong></td>
<td><em>Platalea alba</em>              &lt;br&gt; (1) Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Striated Heron
(3) Observed Kruger NP 31-2.2.

#### Squacco Heron
(2) Kruger NP 31.1 and Kruger NP 2.2.

#### Western Cattle Egret
(1) Kruger NP 3.2.

#### Grey Heron
(3) Observed Kruger NP 31-2.2.

#### Goliath Heron
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

#### Purple Heron
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

#### Great Egret
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

#### Little Egret
(2) Kruger NP 31.1 and Kruger NP 1.2.

### Hamerkop *Scopidae*
(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.

### Cormorants and Shags *Phalacrocoracidae*

#### Reed Cormorant
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

### Secretarybird *Sagittariidae*
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

### Hawks, Eagles, and Kites *Accipitridae*

#### Black-winged Kite
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

#### African Harrier-Hawk
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

#### Hooded Vulture (EN)
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

#### White-backed Vulture (NT)
(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.

#### Lappet-faced Vulture (VU)
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

#### Black-chested Snake Eagle
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bird Species</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brown Snake Eagle</td>
<td>Circaetus cinereus</td>
<td>(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bateleur (NT)</td>
<td>Terathopius ecaudatus</td>
<td>(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martial Eagle (NT)</td>
<td>Polemaetus bellicosus</td>
<td>(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Long-crested Eagle</td>
<td>Lophaetus occipitalis</td>
<td>(1) Johannesburg to Kruger 31.1.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wahlberg's Eagle</td>
<td>Hieraaetus wahlbergi</td>
<td>(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tawny Eagle</td>
<td>Aquila rapax rapax</td>
<td>(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gabar Goshawk</td>
<td>Micronisus gabor gabor</td>
<td>(1) Kruger NP 1.2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shikra</td>
<td>Accipiter badius polyzonoides</td>
<td>(1) Kruger NP 1.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Sparrowhawk</td>
<td>Accipiter minullus minullus</td>
<td>(1) Kruger NP 4.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Sparrowhawk</td>
<td>Accipiter melanoleucus melanoleucus</td>
<td>(1) Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-billed Kite</td>
<td>Milvus aegyptius parasitus</td>
<td>(3) Observed Kruger NP 31-2.2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>African Fish Eagle</td>
<td>Haliaeetus vocifer</td>
<td>(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Common Buzzard</td>
<td>Buteo buteo vulpinus</td>
<td>(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black-bellied Bustard</td>
<td>Lissotis melanogaster notphila</td>
<td>(1) Kruger NP 1.2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Black Crake</td>
<td>Amaurornis flavirostra</td>
<td>(2) Kruger NP 31.1 and Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Thick-knee</td>
<td>Burhinus vermiculatus vermiculatus</td>
<td>(3) Observed Kruger NP 31-2.2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spotted Thick-knee</td>
<td>Burhinus capensis</td>
<td>(1) Kruger NP 1.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-winged Stilt</td>
<td>Himantopus himantopus</td>
<td>(1) Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
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**Bustards Otididae**

**Rails, Gallinules, and Coots Rallidae**

**Thick-knees Burhinidae**

**Stilts and Avocets Recurvirostridae**

**Plovers and Lapwings Charadriidae**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Blacksmith Lapwing</strong></th>
<th><em>Vanellus armatus</em></th>
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<td>(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>White-crowned Lapwing</strong></th>
<th><em>Vanellus albiceps</em></th>
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<td>(1) Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Crowned Lapwing</strong></th>
<th><em>Vanellus coronatus</em></th>
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<td>(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>African Wattled Lapwing</strong></th>
<th><em>Vanellus senegallus lateralis</em></th>
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<td>(1) Kruger NP 3.2.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Kittlitz's Plover</strong></th>
<th><em>Charadrius pecuarius</em></th>
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<td>(1) Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Three-banded Plover</strong></th>
<th><em>Charadrius tricollaris tricollaris</em></th>
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<td>(3) Kruger NP 31.1, Kruger NP 2.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.</td>
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**Painted-snipes Rostratulidae**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Greater Painted-snipe</strong></th>
<th><em>Rostratula benghalensis</em></th>
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<td>(1) Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
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**Jacanas Jacanidae**

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<tr>
<th><strong>African Jacana</strong></th>
<th><em>Actophilornis africanus</em></th>
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**Sandpipers and Allies Scolopacidae**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Marsh Sandpiper</strong></th>
<th><em>Tringa stagnatilis</em></th>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Common Greenshank</strong></th>
<th><em>Tringa nebularia</em></th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Wood Sandpiper</strong></th>
<th><em>Tringa glareola</em></th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Common Sandpiper</strong></th>
<th><em>Actitis hypoleucus</em></th>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Ruff</strong></th>
<th><em>Calidris pugnax</em></th>
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<td>(1) Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
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**Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers Laridae**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Whiskered Tern</strong></th>
<th><em>Chlidonias hybridus</em></th>
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<td>(1) Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
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**Pigeons and Doves Columbidae**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Speckled Pigeon</strong></th>
<th><em>Columba guinea phaeonota</em></th>
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<tr>
<td>(1) Johannesburg 31.1.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>African Olive Pigeon</strong></th>
<th><em>Columba arquatrix</em></th>
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<td>(1) Walter Sisulu Botanical Garden 4.2.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Mourning Collared Dove</strong></th>
<th><em>Streptopelia decipiens ambigua</em></th>
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<td>(1) Kruger NP 1.2.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Red-eyed Dove</strong></th>
<th><em>Streptopelia semitorquata</em></th>
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<td>(1) Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Ring-necked Dove</strong></th>
<th><em>Streptopelia capicola</em></th>
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<tr>
<td>(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.</td>
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</table>
Laughing Dove
(3) Johannesburg 31.1, Kruger NP 2.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

Emerald-spotted Wood Dove
(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.

African Green Pigeon
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

Laughing Dove
Spilopelia senegalensis senegalensis

Emerald-spotted Wood Dove
Turtur chalcospilos

African Green Pigeon
Treron calvus delalandii

Turacos Musophagidae

Purple-crested Turaco
Tauraco porphyreolophus porphyreolophus

Grey Go-away-bird
Corythaixoides concolor

Purple-crested Turaco
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

Grey Go-away-bird
(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.

Cuckcoos Cuculidae

Burchell's Coucal
Centropus burchellii burchellii

Levaillant's Cuckoo
Clamator levaillantii

Diederik Cuckoo
Chrysococcyx caprius

African Cuckoo
Cuculus gularis

Burchell's Coucal
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

Diederik Cuckoo
(1) 1 heard Kruger NP 2.2.

African Cuckoo
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

Westerne Barn Owl
Tyto alba poensis

Barn-Owls Tytonidae

Western Barn Owl
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

African Scops Owl
Otus senegalensis senegalensis

Verreaux's Eagle-Owl
Bubo lacteus

African Barred Owlet
Glaucidium capense capense

African Scops Owl
(1) Kruger NP 3.2.

Verreaux's Eagle-Owl
(2) Kruger NP 31.1 and Kruger NP 2.2.

African Barred Owlet
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

European Nightjar
Caprimulgus europaeus europaeus

European Nightjar
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

African Palm Swift
Cypsiurus parvus

Little Swift
Apus affinis

African Palm Swift
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

White-rumped Swift
Apus caffer

Little Swift
(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.

Mousebirds Coliidae

White-rumped Swift
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.
Speckled Mousebird
(2) Kruger NP 31.1 and Kruger NP 3.2.
Red-faced Mousebird
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

Lilac-breasted Roller
(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.

Rollers Coraciidae
Coracias caudatus caudatus
Coracias garrulus garrulus

European Roller (NT)
(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.

Grey-headed Kingfisher
(1) Kruger NP 3.2.

Rolling Alcedinidae
Halcyon leucocephala pallidiventris
Halcyon albiventris

Brown-hooded Kingfisher
(3) Kruger NP 31.1, Kruger NP 2.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

Striped Kingfisher
(2) Kruger NP 2.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

Woodland Kingfisher
(2) Kruger NP 31.1 and Kruger NP 2.2.

Kingfishers Alcedinidae
Halcyon chelicuti chelicuti
Halcyon senegalensis cyanoleuca
Corythornis cristatus cristatus

Malachite Kingfisher
(2) Kruger NP 2.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

Giant Kingfisher
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

Pied Kingfisher
(3) Observed Kruger NP 31-2.2.

Bee-eaters Meropidae
Merops bullockoides
Merops apiaster
Merops nubicoides

White-fronted Bee-eater
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

European Bee-eater
(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.

Southern Carmine Bee-eater
(3) Observed Kruger NP 31-2.2.

Hoopoes Upupidae
Upupa africana

African Hoopoe
(2) Kruger NP 2.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

Wood Hoopoes and Scimitar-bills Phoeniculidae
Phoeniculus purpureus
Rhinopomastus cyanomelas

Green Wood Hoopoe
(2) Kruger NP 2.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

Common Scimitarbill
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

Ground Hornbills Bucorvidae
Bucorvus leadbeateri

Southern Ground Hornbill (VU)
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.
### Hornbills *Bucerotidae*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Observed Location(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southern Red-billed Hornbill</td>
<td>Kruger NP 31-3.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill</td>
<td>Kruger NP 31-3.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crowned Hornbill</td>
<td>Kruger NP 31.1 and Kruger NP 1.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African Grey Hornbill</td>
<td>Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### African Barbets *Lybiidae*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Observed Location(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird</td>
<td>Nelspruit 4.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-collared Barbet</td>
<td>Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crested Barbet</td>
<td>Kruger NP 2.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Honeyguides *Indicatoridae*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Observed Location(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greater Honeyguide</td>
<td>Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Woodpeckers *Picidae*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Observed Location(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Golden-tailed Woodpecker</td>
<td>1 heard Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bearded Woodpecker</td>
<td>Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardinal Woodpecker</td>
<td>Kruger NP 31.1 and observed Kruger NP 2-4.2.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Falcons and Caracaras *Falconidae*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Observed Location(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amur Falcon</td>
<td>Johannesburg to Kruger 31.1.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### African & New World Parrots *Psittacidae*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Observed Location(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brown-headed Parrot</td>
<td>Observed Kruger NP 31-2.2 and Kruger NP 4.2.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Wattle-eyes and Batises *Platysteiridae*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Observed Location(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chinspot Batis</td>
<td>Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Helmetshrikes and Allies *Prionopidae*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Observed Location(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White-crested Helmetshrike</td>
<td>Kruger NP 31.1 and Kruger NP 1.2.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Bushshrikes and Allies *Malaconotidae*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Observed Location(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grey-headed Bushshrike</td>
<td>Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Brown-crowned Tchagra
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

Black-backed Puffback
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

Brubru
(1) I heard Kruger NP 2.2.

Brown-crowned Tchagra  
_Tchagra australis_

Black-crowned Tchagra

Black-backed Puffback  
_Dryoscopus cubla_

Brubru  
_Nilaus afer_

_Cuckoo-shrikes Campephagidae_

Campephaga flava

Black Cuckoo-shrike
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

_Brown-headed Shrike_  
_Campephaga flava_

Shrikes Laniidae

Magpie Shrike
(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.

Southern White-crowned Shrike
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

Red-backed Shrike
(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.

Magpie Shrike  
_Urolestes melanoleucus_

Southern White-crowned Shrike  
_Eurocephalus anguitimens_

Red-backed Shrike  
_Lanius collurio_

_Old World Orioles Oriolidae_

Eurasian Golden Oriole
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

Black-headed Oriole
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

Eurasian Golden Oriole  
_Oriolus oriolus_

Black-headed Oriole  
_Oriolus larvatus larvatus_

Drongos Dicruridae

Fork-tailed Drongo
(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.

Drongos  
_Dicrurus adsimilis_

Pied Crow
(1) N4 Nelspruit - Pretoria 4.2.

Pied Crow  
_Corvus albus_

Southern Black Tit
(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.

Southern Black Tit  
_Melaniparus niger_

Chickadees and Tits Paridae

Eastern Nicator
(1) Kruger NP 3.2.

Eastern Nicator  
_Nicator gularis_

Chickadees and Tits  
_Melaniparus niger_

Nicators

Larks Alaudidae

Sabota Lark
(2) Kruger NP 2.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

Sabota Lark  
_Calendulauda sabota_

Larks  
_Calendulauda sabota_

Dark-capped Bulbul

Dark-capped Bulbul  
_Pycnonotus tricolor layardi_

_Bulbuls Pycnonotidae_
(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.
Sombre Greenbul
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

Andropadus importunus

Swallows Hirundinidae

Grey-rumped Swallow
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

Pseudhirundo griseopyga griseopyga

Brown-throated Martin
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

Riparia paludicola paludicola

Barn Swallow
(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.

Hirundo rustica rustica

White-throated Swallow
(1) Kruger NP 4.2.

Hirundo albicollaris

Wire-tailed Swallow
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

Hirundo smithii smithii

Lesser Striped Swallow
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

Cecropis abyssinica unitatis

Red-breasted Swallow
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

Cecropis semirufa semirufa

Mosque Swallow
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

Cecropis senegalensis monteiri

Cisticolas and Allies Cisticolidae

Red-faced Cisticola
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

Cisticola erythrops nyasa

Rattling Cisticola
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

Cisticola chiniana

Tawny-flanked Prinia
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

Prinia subflava

Stierling's Wren-Warbler
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

Calamonastes stierlingi pintoi

Laughingthrushes Leiothrichidae

Arrow-marked Babbler
(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.

Turdoides jardineii jardineii

Starlings Sturnidae

Wattled Starling
(1) Kruger NP 3.2.

Creatophora cinerea

Cape Starling
(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.

Lamprotornis nitens

Greater Blue-eared Starling
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

Lamprotornis chalybaeus nordmanni

Burchell's Starling
(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.

Lamprotornis australis

Violet-backed Starling
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

Cinnyricinclus leucogaster verreauxi

Red-winged Starling
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

Onychognathus morio morio
(2) Kruger NP 2.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

**Oxpeckers Buphagidae**

Yellow-billed Oxpecker  
*Buphagus africanus africanus*

(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

Red-billed Oxpecker  
*Buphagus erythrorynchus*

(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.

**Thrushes and Allies Turdidae**

Groundscraper Thrush  
*Turdus litsitsirupa litsitsirupa*

(1) Nelspruit 4.2.

Kurrichane Thrush  
*Turdus libonyana*

(2) Hazyview 31.1 and Nelspruit 4.2.

Karoo Thrush  
*Turdus smithi*

(1) Walter Sisulu Botanical Garden 4.2.

**Old World Flycatchers Muscicapidae**

Bearded Scrub Robin  
*Cercotrichas quadrivirgata quadrivirgata*

(1) Kruger NP 3.2.

Southern Black Flycatcher  
*Melaenornis pammelaina*

(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

Spotted Flycatcher  
*Muscicapa striata*

(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.

Ashy Flycatcher  
*Muscicapa caerulescens*

(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

Cape Robin-Chat  
*Cossypha caffra*

(1) Walter Sisulu Botanical Garden 4.2.

White-throated Robin-Chat  
*Cossypha humeralis*

(1) Kruger NP 4.2.

White-browed Robin-Chat  
*Cossypha heuglini*

(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

**Sunbirds and Spiderhunters Nectariniidae**

White-bellied Sunbird  
*Cinnyris talatala*

(1) Nelspruit 4.2.

**Old World Sparrows Passeridae**

House Sparrow  
*Passer domesticus*

(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.

Southern Grey-headed Sparrow  
*Passer diffusus*

(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.

**Weavers and Allies Ploceidae**

Red-billed Buffalo Weaver  
*Bubalornis niger niger*

(2) Kruger NP 2.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

Lesser Masked Weaver  
*Ploceus intermedius cabanisii*

(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

Red-billed Quelea  
*Quelea quelea lathamii*
(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.
Southern Red Bishop  
*Euplectes orix*
(2) Hazyview 31.1 and Kruger NP 2.2.

**Waxbills and Allies Estrildidae**
Cut-throat Finch  
*Amadina fasciata*
(1) Nelspruit 4.2.
Jameson’s Firefinch  
*Lagonosticta rhodopareia jamesoni*
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.
Blue Waxbill  
*Uraeginthus angolensis*
(3) Observed Kruger NP 31-2.2.
Common Waxbill  
*Estrilda astrild*
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.
Bronze Mannikin  
*Lonchura cucullata scutata*
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

**Indigobirds Viduidae**
Pin-tailed Whydah  
*Vidua macroura*
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

**Wagtails and Pipits Motacillidae**
African Pied Wagtail  
*Motacilla aguimp*
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.
Yellow-throated Longclaw  
*Macronyx croceus vulturnus*
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.
African Pipit  
*Anthus cinnamomeus*
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.
Bushveld Pipit  
*Anthus caffer*
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

**Finches, Euphonias Fringillidae**
Yellow-fronted Canary  
*Crithagra mozambica*
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

**Buntings, Sparrows and Allies Emberizidae**
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting  
*Emberiza tahapisi tahapisi*
(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.
Golden-breasted Bunting  
*Emberiza flaviventris*
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

**Mammals (27 in total: 27 seen)**

**Status codes:**  
E = Endemic, NE = Near-endemic, I = Introduced  
**IUCN codes:**  
CR = Critically endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, EW = Extinct in the Wild, NT = Near Threatened, DD = Data Deficient

**Elephants Elephantidae**
African Elephant
(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.  

*Loxodonta africana*

**Galagos Galagidae**

**Thick-tailed Greater Galago**
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.  

*Otolemur crassicaudatus crassicaudatus*

**Old World monkeys Cercopithecidae**

**Vervet**
(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.  

*Chlorocebus pygerythrus*

**Chacma Baboon**
(4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.  

*Papio ursinus ursinus*

**Rabbits, Hares Leporidae**

**Scrub Hare**
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.  

*Lepus saxatilis*

**Squirrels Sciuridae**

**Smith's Bush Squirrel**
(3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.  

*Paraxerus cepapi*

**Cats Felidae**

**Cheetah**
(1) Kruger NP 3.2.  

*Acinonyx jubatus jubatus*

**Lion**
(3) Observed Kruger NP 31-2.2.  

*Panthera leo leo*

**Leopard**
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.  

*Panthera pardus pardus*

**Mongooses Herpestidae**

**Common Dwarf Mongoose**
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.  

*Helogale parvula*

**Slender Mongoose**
(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 2.2.  

*Herpestes sanguineus*

**Hyaenas, Aardwolf Hyaenidae**

**Spotted Hyaena**
(2) Kruger NP 31.1 and Kruger NP 1.2.  

*Crocuta crocuta*

**Civets, Genets Viverridae**

**Central African Large-spotted Genet**
(1) Kruger NP 1.2.  

*Genetta maculata*

**Wolves, Coyote, Foxes, Jackals Canidae**

**African Wild Dog**
(1) Kruger NP 2.2.  

*Lycaon pictus*

**Zebras, Horse, Asses Equidae**
Plains Zebra (4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.  
*Equus quagga*

**Rhinoceroses Rhinocerotidae**

White Rhinoceros (4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.  
*Ceratotherium simum simum*

**Pigs Suidae**

Common Warthog (4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.  
*Phacochoerus africanus sundevallii*

**Hippopotamuses Hippopotamidae**

Hippopotamus (4) Observed Kruger NP 31-2.2 and Kruger NP 4.2.  
*Hippopotamus amphibius capensis*

**Cattle, Antelopes, Sheep, Goats Bovidae**

Impala (4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.  
*Aepyceros melampus melampus*

Common Wildebeest (4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.  
*Connochaetes taurinus*

Waterbuck (3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.  
*Kobus ellipsiprymnus ellipsiprymnus*

Steenbok (1) Kruger NP 1.2.  
*Raphicerus campestris campestris*

African Buffalo (3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.  
*Syncerus caffer caffer*

Bushbuck (3) Observed Kruger NP 1-3.2.  
*Tragelaphus scriptus*

Greater Kudu (4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.  
*Tragelaphus strepsiceros*

Giraffe, Okapi Giraffidae

Giraffe (4) Observed Kruger NP 31-3.2.  
*Giraffa camelopardalis giraffa*

Old World Fruit Bats Pteropodidae

Wahlberg's Epauletted Fruit Bat (1) Kruger NP 1.2.  
*Epomophorus wahlbergi*

Reptiles (10 in total: 10 seen)

**Tortoises Testudinidae**

Speke's Hinge-back Tortoise  
*Kinixys spekii*
(2) Kruger NP 31.1 and Kruger NP 2.2.

Leopard Tortoise  
*Stigmodchelys pardalis*

(3) Kruger NP 31.1, Kruger NP 2.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

**Afro-American Sideneck Turtles Pelomedusidae**

Helmeted Turtle  
*Pelomedusa subrufa nigra*

(1) Kruger NP 2.2.

Flap-neck Chameleon  
*Chamaeleo dilepis*

(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

**Geckos Gekkonidae**

House Gecko  
*Hemidactylus mabouia*

(2) Kruger NP 1.2 and Kruger NP 3.2.

**Chameleons Chamaeleonidae**

Giant Plated Lizard  
*Gerrhosaurus validus*

(1) Kruger NP 1.2.

**Geckos Gekkonidae**

African Five-lined Skink  
*Trachylepis quinqueataeniata*

(1) Kruger NP 3.2.

African Striped Skink  
*Trachylepis striata striata*

(1) Kruger NP 31.1.

**Skinks Scincidae**

Nile Monitor  
*Varanus niloticus*

(2) Kruger NP 2.2 and Kruger NP 4.2.

**Monitor Lizards Varanidae**

Crocodiles and relatives Crocodylidae  
*Crocodylus niloticus cowie*

(3) Kruger NP 31.1, Kruger NP 2.2 and Kruger NP 4.2.

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