South Africa
Eastern South Africa & Western Cape Extension
VIII
8th - 26th October 2016 (18 Days)
Trip Report

Secretarybird by Markus Lilje

Trip report compiled by Greg de Klerk
Tour Summary

The Eastern South Africa and Western Cape comprehensive tour is designed to focus on South Africa’s most diverse and dynamic habitats and the associated species. From the epic Sani Pass at 2,784m above sea level to the dry Sand Forest of the KwaZulu-Natal northeastern coastline and the endemic-rich Fynbos of the Western Cape, we had the opportunity to explore the full spectrum as we traversed the country during our 18-day tour, connecting with a vast array of bird species.

Our tour started with a quiet and calm arrival day in the bustling metropolis of Johannesburg. Here, we were able to bird conveniently in the gardens of our well-appointed guest house. The array of species available in this urban space is phenomenal and we were excited to connect with Karoo Thrush, Red-headed Finch, Pin-tailed Whydah, Southern Grey-headed Sparrow, Southern Red Bishop, Speckled Pigeon, Village & Southern Masked Weavers in full breeding attire, Laughing, Red-eyed & Ring-necked Doves, Cape White-eye, African Reed Warbler, Little Swift, Lesser Striped Swallow, Cape Robin-Chat, and Red-faced & Speckled Mousebirds. The members of the team who had arrived early then set off for a visit to the Apartheid Museum before we all met for a welcome dinner later that evening. With many people having travelled from afar, and with a thunderstorm rumbling overhead, we settled in for an early night ahead of a busy fixture the next morning.

We woke early the next morning, with the intent of starting the tour with as many new species as we could muster. After a short trip, we arrived at the Zaagkuildrift Road – a patch of arid Acacia savanna which runs parallel to a small, dry riverbed and a great wetland. This represented our only opportunity to connect with many species only found in the more arid environment usually associated with the western half of South Africa. Our day of birding here proved very successful, as we encountered Namaqua Dove, Red-billed Quelea, Lesser Striped & Red-breasted Swallow, Chestnut-vented Warbler, Marico Flycatcher, Cape & Burchell’s Starlings, African Reed Warbler, Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark, African Pipit, Helmeted Guineafowl, Egyptian & Spur-winged Goose, Yellow-billed Duck, Crested Francolin, Natal & Swainson’s Spurfowl, African Spoonbill, Western Cattle Egret, Black-headed Heron, Little Egret, Reed Cormorant, Black-winged Kite, Cape Wagtail, Blacksmith, Crowned & African Wattled Lapwing, Three-banded Plover, African Jacana, African Snipe, Common Greenshank, Wood Sandpiper, Whiskered Tern, Pied Crow, and the
first of many Grey Go-away-birds. We also managed excellent views of African Palm, Little & Horus Swift, a gaudy Lilac-breasted Roller, a vocal Brown-hooded Kingfisher, a pair of Green Woodhoopoe, an African Hoopoe displaying his crest, the comical Southern Red-billed, Southern Yellow-billed & African Grey Hornbills, a stunning Crested Barbet, an actively displaying Brown-crowned Tchagra, and the first of many Magpie Shrikes, Dark-capped Bulbuls, Fork-tailed Drongo and the noisy Rattling Cisticola. Despite a strong morning wind, we still managed to connect with many of the area’s specials, including a couple of displaying Northern Black Korhaan, the stunning Crimson-breasted Shrike, a raucous family of Southern Pied Babbler, a male Black-chested Prinia in breeding plumage, an active Kalahari Scrub Robin, busy White-browed Sparrow-Weavers at their nests, a solitary Great Sparrow, and a small flock of Scaly-feathered Weaver before stopping for a good lunch in the field.

After lunch, we departed the area and headed toward Walter Sisulu Botanical Gardens. The gardens are found in the centre of Krugersdorp in Johannesburg and are surrounded by open cliff faces and the Witpoortjie Falls. Aside from the scenic beauty, the cliffs also provide a reliable nesting site for the Verreaux’s Eagle, which provided amazing views as they began building a new nesting platform; while the quiet river and associated riverine vegetation are a haven for many species, including Red-chested & Diederik Cuckoo, Fiscal Flycatcher, and Southern Boubou – which we were able to connect with while the flowering gardens provided us with excellent views of Greater Double-collared Sunbird and Cape Robin-Chat. After a great day of birding, we returned to our guesthouse for a wonderful dinner and a good night’s rest, as the anticipation grew with the knowledge that we’d be visiting the Kruger National Park the following day.

Some early morning garden birding allowed us to connect with the Karoo Thrush, Pin-tailed Whydah and Red-headed Finches, and got our energy pumping before we departed Johannesburg and headed east for Kruger National Park. But first, our route out of Gauteng would take us through some fallow wheat fields, where we managed to connect with Purple Heron, Cape Crow, White-necked Raven, Long-crested Eagle, Cape Longclaw, Speckled Pigeon, Pied Starling, Red-throated Wryneck, Southern Red Bishop, Long-tailed Widowbird, Greater Striped Swallow, Red-knobbed Coot, and Blue Crane. We stopped at the small tourist town of Dullstroom, surrounded by alien pine plantations and vast grasslands, for an early lunch.

After a wonderful lunch, we made our way toward the dramatic pass through the

Lilac-breasted Roller by Markus Lilje

Diederik Cuckoo by Hugh Chittendenn
Drakensberg Mountains, where we stopped and managed to connect with Rock Martin, Mountain Wagtail, the elusive Striped Pipit, and beautiful Mocking Cliff Chat. We then made headway and arrived at the world-renowned Kruger National Park, a reserve covering 2.8 million hectares (6.9 million acres), covered by a mixture of Acacia Savanna and Grassland Savanna associated with the granite soils prevalent in the region. We entered at Orpen Gate and proceeded to locate Common Ostrich, Yellow-billed Stork, Black-chested Snake Eagle, Tawny Eagle, Yellow-billed Kite, African Fish Eagle, White-backed Vulture, Southern Black Tit, and Groundscraper Thrush; while also managing great views of a few of the more common mammals, including Impala, Waterbuck, Greater Kudu, Giraffe, Hippopotamus, Common Warthog, Plains Zebra and a rather unusual sight of a normally nocturnal Scrub Hare active during the daylight hours. Of course, the biggest attractions are the larger mammals in Kruger National Park, and we were not disappointed when we managed to locate African Buffalo, African Elephant, White Rhinoceros and Spotted Hyena all before arriving at Satara Rest Camp. In the last remaining hours of the day, we settled in for a good dinner, in the company of our local guide, Dirk, before a welcome rest for our weary bodies.

An early morning drive, we hoped, would allow us to encounter many species associated with the grassland savanna biome characteristic of this region, however, the barren landscape, rather more reminiscent of a desert – as a result of the severe drought that had gripped South Africa – meant food and shelter were in short supply and could not support the densities of animals we were hoping for. Nevertheless, we began to explore the eastern region of the park, particularly the watercourses, around the Lebombo Mountains, adding Grey Heron, Great Egret, Black Crake, Water Thick-knee, Common Sandpiper, Pied Kingfisher, Burchell’s Coucal, Klaas’s Cuckoo, White-rumped Swift, Purple Roller, Emerald-spotted Wood Dove, Brown Snake Eagle, Bateleur, and Wahlberg’s Eagle; while a few hippo carcasses provided us with the opportunity to connect with Hooded, Lappet-faced & White-backed Vultures. The open grasslands are also home to one of the world’s heaviest flying birds, the Kori Bustard, which gave us excellent views. We then stopped for breakfast before returning slowly to camp, but not before we had added Black-headed Oriole, Brown-headed Parrot, Sabota Lark, Wire-tailed Swallow, Tawny-flanked Prinia and Arrow-marked Babbler. As we returned to camp, with the midday heat increasing exponentially, we encountered a sleepy pride of Lion, a couple of Spotted Hyena and a Black-backed Jackal, which complimented our earlier exciting finds of Common Dwarf & Slender Mongoose, Common Wildebeest, a few diminutive Steenbok, Hippopotamus, Giraffe, Common Duiker and a few decent-sized Nile Crocodile.
We settled into our comfortable accommodation for a midday siesta, before a mid-afternoon walk around the camp provided us with sightings of Burnt-necked Eremomela, Greater Blue-eared Starling, Grey-tit Flycatcher, African Scops Owl, Marico Sunbird, Mourning Collared Dove, Red-billed Buffalo Weaver and Yellow-fronted Canary. We set out, once again, in the afternoon to explore the western reaches of the Satara region. While in the area, we managed to locate Red-crested Korhaan, Orange-breasted Bushshrike, Spectacled Weaver, Yellow-breasted Apalis, Black-backed Puffback, African Hawk-Eagle, Chinspot Batis, Bearded Woodpecker, and Common Scimitarbill before returning to our camp for dinner and a rather windy night drive, which yielded Southern White-faced Owl, African Civet and Wild Cat. We finally laid our heads to rest before a long journey the next day.

The next day, we departed Satara Restcamp, heading south toward Pretoriuskop via Tshokwane and Skukuza. The main road kept us running parallel to a riverbed as we transitioned from grassland savanna to woodland savanna – characterised by larger broad-leaved trees. Along the way, we were very fortunate to encounter further sightings of Lion, Klipspringer standing atop large granite boulders, and our first views of the impressive Nyala and its close relative in the form of a Bushbuck; while a Southern Lesser Galago was spotted by Dirk, hidden in a dense, leafy nest. We were also extremely lucky with the birdlife along the route, managing to record Coqui Francolin, Marabou Stork, Goliath Heron, the monotypic Hamerkop, African Harrier-Hawk, Lesser-spotted Eagle, Black-winged Stilt, White-crowned Lapwing, Little Stint, Ruff, Retz’s Helmetshrike, Cardinal Woodpecker, White-fronted Bee-eater, Grey-headed Bushshrike, Southern White-crowned Shrike, Mosque Swallow, Wattled Starling, Yellow-throated Petronia, African Pied Wagtail, Cinnamon-breasted & Golden-breasted Bunting, and the magnificent Southern Ground Hornbill.

After a good stop for lunch, where African Green Pigeon and Giant Kingfisher entertained us, we took the main road toward Pretoriuskop Restcamp. Along this stretch of road, we watched a fascinating encounter between a young Lion and two bull elephants at a waterhole before we meandered to our camp. We arrived at camp in the late afternoon and settled in, watching as Purple-crested Turaco, Blue Waxbill and Green-winged Pytilia came to drink at a water point, before settling for dinner on our final night in Kruger National Park.

The next morning, we had a relaxed start as we took the time to explore the camp gardens, adding Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird, Golden-tailed Woodpecker, Black Cuckoo-shrike, Sombre Greenbul, Black Saw-wing, Violet-backed Starling, Southern Black & Ashy Flycatcher, Scarlet-chested Sunbird, Red-headed Weaver,
Icterine Warbler and Common House Martin before breakfast. We then departed Kruger, and our drive to the reserve exit provided good encounters with Yellow-throated Longclaw, Yellow-fronted Canary, Pin-tailed Whydah, and Marico & White-bellied Sunbirds, with a supporting cast of Slender Mongoose, African Buffalo, Bushbuck and Smith’s Bush Squirrel. Satisfied with our time in Kruger, we began our scenic trip to the Highland Grasslands of Wakkerstroom.

A couple of productive stops along the way produced Banded Martin, African Yellow Warbler, Levaillant’s Cisticola, African Stonechat, South African Shelduck, Cape Shoveler, Red-billed Teal, Southern Pochard, Little Grebe, Greater Flamingo, Southern Bald & Glossy Ibis, African Swamphen, Common Moorhen, and White-throated Swallow; while we were also surprised by a family of Spotted-necked Otter in a dam near our accommodation. We arrived at our wonderful lodgings in the late afternoon, where we enjoyed a flavourful dinner before enjoying a much-needed sleep after a long day of travel.

The early morning, in the company of local guide, Lucky, started with beautiful, clear skies in Wakkerstroom before a drastic change in the weather made birding rather challenging, as rain, mist and wind curtailed our efforts; yet we still managed to locate Red-winged Francolin, Secretarybird, the beautiful endemic Jackal Buzzard, Ground Woodpecker, Eastern Long-billed & Rufous-naped Lark, South African Cliff Swallow, Cape Grassbird, Sentinel Rock Thrush, Common Waxbill and Long-billed Pipit. We returned to the lodge for breakfast a short time later, to an amazing spread and a very good cup of coffee. After breakfast, we decided to try bird some areas not yet affected by the foul weather at this stage. We headed off in the direction of Fickland Pan and along the way, managed to locate Blue Korhaan, Blue Crane, Spike-heeled & Red-capped Lark, Brown-throated Martin, and Buff-streaked & Ant-eating Chats. We arrived at Fickland Pan and went in search of one of the major target species of the high-altitude grasslands, and had excellent views of the endemic Rudd’s Lark scurrying through the grass in a mouse like fashion. We then settled for a good lunch in the field with a view of Fickland Pan, which was teeming with birds, including Pink-billed Lark, Red-knobbed Coot, Greater Flamingo, Little Grebe, Spur-winged & Egyptian Goose, South African Shelduck, Cape & Red-billed Teal, Yellow-billed Duck, Cape Shoveler, Southern Pochard and the “pin-tailed” Maccoa Duck.

The afternoon saw us heading off in the direction of Daggakraal, connecting with Mountain Wheatear in the process. Here we managed to...
find and view the endangered and endemic Botha’s Lark after a brief search. With the weather getting poorer by the minute, we decided to stop at a nearby wetland, where we added Lesser Swamp Warbler, African Rail and Red-chested Flufftail before returning to the guesthouse to freshen up before another excellent meal and great night’s sleep.

Our final morning in Wakkerstroom offered some great birding in the immediate surrounds of the town and the local wetlands. With the weather clearing rapidly, we managed to add Bokmakierie and Olive Thrush, with the endemic Yellow-breasted Pipit, Drakensberg Prinia, Wailing & Pale-crowned Cisticola providing the morning’s highlights. We also had good views of Black Wildebeest before returning for breakfast. After an enjoyable breakfast, we departed the grasslands of Wakkerstroom, but not before we had managed to locate a pair of White-bellied Bustard, heading east toward Mkuze. We continued to bird through the day, stopping regularly to view African Paradise Flycatcher, Woolly-necked Stork, and Alpine & African Black Swifts before stopping for lunch.

With a good meal behind us, we arrived in a very humid Mkuze and immediately decided to explore our surroundings. The magical Sand Forest biome, in which our accommodation was based, holds some incredible species, and we were able to locate Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher, an astounding Gorgeous Bushshrike, the comical Crested Guineafowl, vocal Square-tailed Drongo and a Purple-banded Sunbird displaying near the dining area of the lodge. The area also provided a few mammals, and the regular thicket species like Nyala and Vervet were located in the company of the unobtrusive Natal Red Duiker. Having had a successful day, we settled in for a wonderful dinner and then retired to get as much sleep as possible before an early start the next day.

The next morning, we were treated to clearing skies and a light breeze as we entered Mkuze Game Reserve. The drought was evident here, where waterholes which would normally be a hive of activity were dry, and lush vegetation was restricted to watercourses and a few animal carcasses were scattered around the park. The morning started well, with views of Crowned & Trumpeter Hornbills, White-crested Helmetshrike, Bearded Scrub Robin, European Bee-eater, Brubru, African Dusky Flycatcher, Terrestrial Brownbul, Rudd’s Apalis and Yellow-bellied Eremomela, as we began exploring the Sand Forest biome before we stopped for breakfast. During breakfast, a quiet, tinkling call alerted us to the presence of another target species and a few moments later, we were viewing the incredible Pink-throated Twinspot.
We then proceeded into the reserve and investigated the various pans within. Here we encountered Gorgeous Bushshrike, Lesser Masked Weaver, Little Bee-eater and Red-billed Oxpecker. Ensumbo Pan was much drier than expected, but we were treated to a small flock of Collared Pratincole perching near a mud wallow that contained twenty-six Hippopotamus struggling for survival. A Broad-billed Roller, Black Cuckooshrike, Bronze Mannikin, Black-headed Oriole, and Bearded, Cardinal & Golden-tailed Woodpeckers were all present along the way. Our final stop before departing the park, after a welcome ice-cream break, was at a hide that allowed us to see Tambourine Dove and Marsh & Wood Sandpipers. As we left the park, we stopped at Muzi Pan to connect with Pink-backed Pelican, African Openbill, White-winged Tern, Marsh Sandpiper, and Kittlitz’s & Common Ringed Plovers. After a fantastic day of birding, we returned to the lodge and before settling in for dinner, we managed to connect with a very approachable Eastern Nicator.

The next morning, a brief stroll in the lodge grounds produced Crested Guineafowl, Narina Trogon and Eastern Nicator before we headed off to False Bay Park and managed to locate Red-fronted Tinkerbird, Yellow-bellied Greenbul, Crowned Eagle, Red-billed Firefinch, and Collared & Grey Sunbirds. We returned to camp for breakfast, where we were joined by a Green Mamba, before we departed for St Lucia, getting excellent views of Montagu’s Harrier as we went.

We arrived in time to locate Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird, Caspian Tern, Grey-headed Gull, Southern Brown-throated & Eastern Golden Weaver along the St Lucia estuary; while a large storm began to brew nearby. We checked into our accommodation and then set off to explore the coastal forest in the surrounding area. Despite the imminent storm, the forest was a hive of activity. We managed to connect with Livingstone’s Turaco, Red-capped Robin-Chat and a major surprise in the form of a Buff-spotted Flufftail running across our path before the heavens opened. We retreated to our accommodation for an afternoon siesta before dinner and a fantastic night drive, which produced Spotted Eagle-Owl, and Swamp, Fiery-necked & Square-tailed Nightjar; while a few smaller creatures featured in the form of a Peters’s Epauletted Fruit Bat, a Thick-tailed Greater Galago, a Cape Porcupine and a Flap-necked Chameleon. Happy with the day’s events, we drifted off to sleep.

The next morning, we rose early and set off to investigate the climax coastal forest around the lodge before breakfast. We were rewarded with excellent views of White-eared Barbet, African Yellow White-eye, Olive Sunbird, Dark-backed Weaver and a small
flock of Green Twinspot. We also had leisure to check the estuary mouth, which yielded Common Ringed, Three-banded & Kittlitz’s Plovers, Bar-tailed Godwit, Sanderling, Curlew Sandpiper, and Common, Greater Crested & Caspian Terns before enjoying a wonderful breakfast spread back at our lodgings. We then made our way across to Cape Vidal for the afternoon. Again, the weather was extremely unpredictable and we drove through torrential rainfall and sunshine as we traversed the coastal grasslands with interspersed forest patches, while managing to connect with a magnificent Martial Eagle, Black-bellied Bustard, both Black-chested & Brown Snake Eagle, and Fan-tailed Widowbird before stopping for a wet lunch break, where we recorded Woodward’s Batis and White-fronted Plover along the Indian Ocean Coastline.

After lunch, we attempted to locate the Brown Scrub Robin and after much searching, we were ready to give up and began the return trip to our accommodation, when suddenly a brown flash flew in front of us. We rapidly jumped out of the vehicle to find a pair of calling Brown Scrub Robin in the eleventh hour. We returned to St Lucia and again strolled through the forest, which produced wonderful views of Livingstone’s Turaco, Woodward’s Batis, Narina Trogon and Trumpeter Hornbill before we returned to camp and headed off to dinner.

An early morning departure allowed us to beat the rush hour traffic and pass through the vast Eucalyptus and Pine plantations rapidly, almost devoid of life except for a Long-crested Eagle, as we made our way to Eshowe and the pristine, climax scarp forest of Dlinza Forest Reserve. Arriving as the gates opened, accompanied by the inclement weather which had plagued us so far, we embarked on a lovely trail that allowed us to connect with Lemon Dove, African Emerald Cuckoo, Scaly-throated Honeyguide, Olive Woodpecker, Green-backed Camaroptera, Spotted Ground & Olive Thrush and Chorister Robin-Chat. A short while later, we stopped at a nearby dam and managed to record Black-bellied Starling, African Pygmy Goose, African Darter and White-backed Duck before a stop for lunch in Mtunzini.

After we had satiated our hunger, we began exploring the Mangroves in the Umlalazi Nature Reserve, hoping to find Black-throated Wattle-eye, but we were not able to locate any. We did, however, manage to locate a Terek Sandpiper in the company of a Common Greenshank, a host of Little Stints and Curlew Sandpipers. We then began our long drive through to Hilton, locating a Black Sparrowhawk en route, before arriving at our overnight stop and enjoying a fantastic dinner.

A beautiful morning greeted us as we began birding around the Karkloof conservation area.
The magnificent conditions allowed us to explore the mistbelt forest and agricultural land, and we managed to add Common Buzzard, Familiar Chat, Red-collared Widowbird, Malachite Kingfisher, and Grey, Blue & Wattled Crane before we arrived at Benvie Gardens. We quickly set about birding and managed to add Bar-throated Apalis, Orange Ground Thrush, Grey Cuckoo-shrike, Mountain Wagtail, and Amethyst & Southern Double-collared Sunbirds. A short while later, we stopped and were fortunate to connect with Yellow-throated Woodland Warbler, Cape Batis and Bush Blackcap in a patch of prime forest. After a magnificent morning, we settled for lunch, joined by Red-backed Mannikin and Black Cuckoo.

We then began the drive to Underberg, along the way stopping to find Lanner Falcon along the road; while Marutsa Forest produced the goods with Swee Waxbill and an African Goshawk flushing a flock of Cape Parrots, which circled over us before a Forest Buzzard landed in a dead tree, providing amazing views. Ultimately, another storm broke and made any further birding impossible. We arrived at our lovely accommodation, at the foot of Sani Pass, just as heavy rain set in. We had a delightful meal and a good night’s sleep before a very exciting birding day.

It was an early morning start to one of the highlights of the tour, a day trip up Sani Pass. The magnificent blue skies and still air were ideal for birding and we connected with Red-necked Spurfowl, Brown-backed Honeybird, Ground Woodpecker, Red-throated Wryneck, White-necked Raven, Barrat’s Warbler, Drakensberg Prinia, Gurney’s Sugarbird, Cape Rock Thrush, Malachite Sunbird, Yellow Bishop, Streaky-headed Seedeater, and Cape & Brimstone Canaries as we climbed the mountainside. As we approached the top of the pass, a splendid Drakensberg Rockjumper came bounding down a rock-strewn ravine and while we watched, a pair of Drakensberg Siskin and a Cape Bunting also came into view.

Reaching the top of the pass, the wind picked up substantially across the scrubby Karoo-like environment, while heavy cloud began to build, but we still managed to connect with African Black Duck, Black Stork, Bearded Vulture, Mountain Pipit, Sickle-winged Chat and Large-billed Lark before settling into a sheltered spot for lunch as a storm broke overhead. We then ventured out as the storm passed and managed to find Cape Vulture, Layard’s Warbler, Fairy Flycatcher, Grey Tit and Grey-winged Francolin before returning to our guesthouse, where we enjoyed a magnificent dinner.
The following day proved to be rather stressful. After an early breakfast, we departed Underberg to connect with our flight from King Shaka International Airport to Cape Town. Despite making good progress, we found ourselves caught up in traffic due to an accident which rendered the main motorway closed a short while after we arrived. With time running out, the Rockjumper Office pulled out all the stops to reschedule our flight times till later that evening. As a result, we visited a nearby water treatment farm, where we found Zitting Cisticola, Green Sandpiper, White-faced Whistling Duck, Hottentot Teal, Little Rush Warbler and many other species which we had recorded previously. We then meandered down to Durban, where the humidity was oppressive. Pigeon Valley Nature Reserve was where we would spend our time birding till lunch, and here we managed to locate Kurrichane Thrush, Thick-billed Weaver, Collared Sunbird, Cape Batis and African Paradise Flycatcher.

After a great lunch, we headed to another small reserve which turned up Eastern Golden Weaver, another view of Thick-billed Weaver, Rufous-winged Cisticola and a single Black-throated Wattle-eye before making our way to the airport to connect with our rescheduled flight. We arrived at our guesthouse late that night, and immediately settled in with the exciting prospect of a pelagic to follow the next morning.

The morning dawned with excitement as we made our way to the small craft harbour in Simon’s Town to embark on a pelagic trip off the Cape coastline. The wind was blowing quite strongly and we were warned that conditions may be a bit bumpy as we progressed, yet nothing prepared us for what was to come. As we headed out of the harbour, we added Cape Cormorant, and Hartlaub’s & Kelp Gull to our list. We also got great views of Cape Gannet, African Penguin and Greater Crested Tern as we exited False Bay. The activity increased drastically as we rounded Cape Point: here we located Arctic Tern, Brown & Pomarine Skua, Sooty Shearwater, White-chinned Petrel and Great Shearwater. The wind speed increased as we headed out onto the open sea and this made the swells very difficult to navigate, and made bird viewing near impossible through Binoculars, yet we still managed to get views of Black-browed, Shy, Atlantic Yellow-nosed & Northern Royal Albatross. Conditions were swiftly becoming dangerous while also making most of the passengers a little green around the gills, and it was decided between the captain and the guides that it was reasonable to turn back for shore. We still managed to find a breeding colony of Bank Cormorant on a large rock before we arrived back at the harbour.
With a large part of the day still available, and a few intrepid birders feeling capable of birding, we decided to visit the Strandfontein water treatment plant, which produced Rock Kestrel, Common Starling, White-faced Whistling Duck, Spur-winged & Egyptian Goose, Cape & Red-billed Teal, Yellow-billed Duck, Cape Shoveler, Southern Pochard, Maccoc Duck, Helmeted Guineafowl, Cape Spurfowl, Black-necked Grebe, Pied Avocet, Ruddy Turnstone, Sandwich Tern, and Greater & Lesser Flamingo before heading out to dinner and returning to camp for a wonderful sleep.

The next morning, we headed out along the coastline of False Bay to explore the Hottentot’s Holland Mountain range. We began at the Stony Point penguin colony, near Betty’s Bay, collecting a well-hidden Victorin’s Warbler on the way. The superb views of African Penguins brought much joy to all the participants. This colony is probably South Africa’s only penguin colony that has seen significant increases in the number of breeding pairs over the last two decades. We also connected with the marine species of cormorant that breed here: Crowned, Cape & Bank Cormorant were all seen well. The resident Rock Hyraxes also provided some entertainment.

The beautiful, fynbos-based Harold Porter Botanical Gardens provided a great setting for lunch and our next birding stop, allowing us to get close to Familiar Chat, Fiscal Flycatcher, Swee Waxbill, Cape Siskin and Sombre Greenbul before we headed off to explore the vast cliff faces of Rooi-Els, where Orange-breasted Sunbird, Cape Sugarbird, Karoo Prinia and Cape Bulbul distracted us before our target, the Cape Rockjumper, made an appearance. A lovely pair of this charismatic endemic bird gave us an incredible show as the sunset approached; while we also located a Cape Dwarf Chameleon nearby. We then returned to Simon’s Town and enjoyed an excellent dinner before a fantastic night’s rest on our last evening in this wonderful region.

After an excellent breakfast, we departed Simon’s Town, bound for the west coast. Our journey took us to the wetlands near Blouberg Beach. Here we added Great White Pelican, Great-crested Grebe, Black-crowned Night Heron, Western Cattle Egret, African Fish Eagle, Common Moorhen and Red-knobbed Coot to our tally. Arriving at West Coast National Park, we immediately connected with Karoo Scrub-Robin, Black Harrier, Southern Black Korhaan and White-backed Mousebird in the coastal fynbos; while also recording Sacred Ibis, Common Ostrich, African Marsh Harrier, Yellow Canary and a petite Steenbok before lunch.
At the restaurant, we had a fair amount of success, locating Yellow Bishop, Southern Fiscal and Cape Weavers while enjoying a light meal. With the tide exposing the mud flats, the waders began arriving in their droves, rewarding us with wonderful views of South African Shelduck, Grey & Black-headed Heron, Great & Little Egret, Pied Avocet, Black-winged Stilt, Bar-tailed Godwit, Whimbrel, Eurasian Curlew, Common Greenshank, Marsh, Terek & Curlew Sandpiper, Ruff, Sanderling, Little Stint, Common Ringed, Grey, Kittlitz’s & Three-banded Plovers, and Greater & Lesser Flamingo. We finally decided to depart the park and head to Ceres late into the afternoon. We arrived at our accommodation in the late afternoon and immediately settled in for the night, in anticipation of an interesting day in the Karoo.

The Tanqua Karoo would play host to us for a full day trip. The open expanse, punctuated with low, shrubby vegetation and an absence of large trees, makes this area seem uninviting, but there were many species to be seen. The Namaqua Warbler was the first species to grab our attention as it flitted between the Phragmites reeds and grasses near the road. The nearby rocky outcrops also provided us with excellent views of Mountain Wheatear while Grey-backed Cisticola and Bar-throated Apalis flitted nearby. An Acacia-lined dry river course produced a single Grey Tit, Pirit Batis and a pair of Fairy Flycatchers. Further along the road, Rufous-eared Warbler displayed atop some sparsely covered low shrubs; while Karoo & Tractrac Chats, Pale Chanting Goshawk, Booted Eagle and Long-billed Crombec all kept us entertained. A Large-billed Lark mixed with a nearby Karoo Lark. The Karoo Eremomela was one of the highlight species of the day as we traversed this arid environment; while also locating a family of Karoo Korhaan, a single Cinnamon-breasted Warbler moving along a cliff face and a Dusky Sunbird feeding on the flowering Clan William Aloes in the mountainous valleys. Satisfied with a great day of birding, we slowly made our way back to Ceres via the Gydo Pass, where a slightly out of range Neddicky was seen. We arrived back at camp and enjoyed a celebratory farewell dinner on our final night on tour.

Our final morning was a relaxed start, allowing us to savour a good rest and reflect on an incredible tour through this dynamic country. After a delicious breakfast, we departed Ceres via the Du Toit’s Kloof Pass, where we managed to connect with a single Protea Canary before taking the final stretch of road to Cape Town. After a memorable eighteen days across five provinces, a vast number of diverse biomes, some fantastic scenery, during which time we recorded 456 species of bird and 48 mammal species, the tour concluded as we arrived at Cape Town International Airport.
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 (456 in total: 456 seen)

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows Gill, F and D Donsker (Eds). 2015. IOC World Bird List (v 5.2).

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

Ostrich Struthionidae


Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl Anatidae


White-backed Duck *Thalassornis leuconotus leuconotus* (1) Dlinza Forest NR 18.10.


African Pygmy Goose *Nettapus auritus* (1) Dlinza Forest NR 18.10.

A couple of individuals seen in a dam near Eshowe.

Cape Teal *Anas capensis* (2) Wakkerstroom 13.10 and Strandfontein Sewage Works 22.10.


Yellow-billed Duck *Anas undulata undulata*
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Cape Shoveler  
Anas smithii  

Red-billed Teal  
Anas erythrorhyncha  

Hottentot Teal  
Anas hottentota  
(1) Darvill Sewage Works 21.10.

Southern Pochard  
Netta erythropthalma brunnea  

Maccoa Duck (NT)  
Oxyura maccoa  

Guineafowl Numididae

Helmeted Guineafowl  
Numida meleagris coronatus  

Crested Guineafowl  
Guttera pucherani edouardi  
(5) Umkhumbi Lodge 14.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, Kingfisher Lodge, St Lucia 16.10, Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10 and Kingfisher Lodge, St Lucia 18.10.

Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies Phasianidae

Coqui Francolin  
Peliperdix coqui coqui  
(1) Kruger NP - Satara-Skukuza Rd 11.10.

Grey-winged Francolin  
Scleroptila afr  
(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

Red-winged Francolin  
Scleroptila levaillantii levaillantii  
(1) Wakkerstroom 13.10.

Crested Francolin  
Dendroperdix sephaena sephaena  
(5) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, observed Kruger NP 9-11.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

Cape Spurfowl  
Pternistis capensis  

Natal Spurfowl  
Pternistis natalensis natalensis  
(4) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10 and observed Kruger NP 9-11.10.

Red-necked Spurfowl  
Pternistis afer castaneiventer  
(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

Swainson's Spurfowl  
Pternistis swainsonii swainsonii  
(4) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10 and observed Kruger NP 9-11.10.

Common Quail  
Coturnix coturnix africana  

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Rockjumper Birding Tours
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(1) 1 Underberg 19.10.

**Penguins Spheniscidae**

African Penguin (EN)  
*Spheniscus demersus*

(2) Cape Town pelagic 22.10 and Stony Point 23.10.

**Albatrosses Diomedeidae**

Black-browed Albatross  
*Thalassarche melanophris*

(1) Cape Town pelagic 22.10.

Shy Albatross (NT)  
*Thalassarche cauta cauta*

(1) Cape Town pelagic 22.10.

Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross (EN)  
*Thalassarche chlororhynchos*

(1) Cape Town pelagic 22.10.

**Shearwaters and Petrels Procellariidae**

White-chinned Petrel (VU)  
*Procellaria aequinoctialis*

(1) Cape Town pelagic 22.10.

Sooty Shearwater (NT)  
*Puffinus griseus*

(1) Cape Town pelagic 22.10.

Great Shearwater  
*Puffinus gravis*

(1) Cape Town pelagic 22.10.

**Grebes Podicipedidae**

Little Grebe  
*Tachybaptus ruficollis capensis*


Great Crested Grebe  
*Podiceps cristatus infuscatus*

(1) West Coast NP 24.10.

Black-necked Grebe  
*Podiceps nigricollis gurneyi*

(2) Strandfontein Sewage Works 22.10 and Ceres 25.10.

**Flamingos Phoenicopteridae**

Greater Flamingo  
*Phoenicopterus roseus*


Lesser Flamingo (NT)  
*Phoeniconaias minor*

(2) Strandfontein Sewage Works 22.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

**Storks Ciconiidae**

Yellow-billed Stork  
*Mycteria ibis*

(2) Kruger NP 9.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

African Openbill  
*Anastomus lamelligerus lamelligerus*

(1) Mkuze GR 15.10.

Black Stork  
*Ciconia nigra*

(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

Woolly-necked Stork  
*Ciconia episcopus microcelis*

**Marabou Stork**  
*Leptoptilos crumenifer*  
(1) Kruger NP 11.10.

**Ibis and Spoonbills Threskiornithidae**

**African Sacred Ibis**  
*Threskiornis aethiopicus*  

**Southern Bald Ibis (VU)**  
*Geronticus calvus*  
(3) Observed Wakkerstroom 12-14.10.

**Hadada Ibis**  
*Bostrychia hagedash hagedash*  

**Glossy Ibis**  
*Plegadis falcinellus*  

**African Spoonbill**  
*Platalea alba*  

**Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns Ardeidae**

**Black-crowned Night Heron**  
*Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax*  

**Squacco Heron**  
*Ardeola ralloides*  

**Western Cattle Egret**  
*Bubulcus ibis*  

**Grey Heron**  
*Ardea cinerea cinerea*  
(10) Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP 11.10, observed Wakkerstroom 12-14.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, St Lucia 17.10, Strandfontein Sewage Works 22.10, West Coast NP 24.10 and Ceres 25.10.

**Black-headed Heron**  
*Ardea melanochlata*  

**Goliath Heron**  
*Ardea goliath*  
(2) Kruger NP 11.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Purple Heron**  
*Ardea purpurea purpurea*  
(2) Dullstroom 9.10 and Kruger NP 11.10.

**Great Egret**  
*Ardea alba melanorhynchos*  
(3) Kruger NP 10.10, Strandfontein Sewage Works 22.10 and Rietvlei Wetlands (WC) 24.10.

**Little Egret**  
*Egretta garzetta garzetta*

**Hamerkop Scopidae**  
*Scopus umbretta umbretta*  
(3) Kruger NP 11.10, Wakkerstroom 13.10 and St Lucia 18.10.

**Pelecanus onocrotalus**  
Great White Pelican  
(1) Rietvlei Wetlands (WC) 24.10.

**Pelecanus rufescens**  
Pink-backed Pelican  
(1) Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Sulidae**  
Boobies and Gannets  
Cape Gannet (VU)  
*Morus capensis*  
(2) Cape Town pelagic 22.10 and Simon's Town 23.10.

**Phalacrocoracidae**  
Cormorants and Shags  
Reed Cormorant  
*Microcarbo africanus africanus*  

Crowned Cormorant  
*Microcarbo corona*  
(1) Stony Point 23.10.

Bank Cormorant (EN)  
*Phalacrocorax neglectus*  
(2) Cape Town pelagic 22.10 and Stony Point 23.10.

White-breasted Cormorant  
*Phalacrocorax lucidus*  
(3) Cape Town pelagic 22.10, Stony Point 23.10 and Rietvlei Wetlands (WC) 24.10.

Cape Cormorant (NT)  
*Phalacrocorax capensis*  
(3) Cape Town pelagic 22.10, Stony Point 23.10 and Rietvlei Wetlands (WC) 24.10.

**Anhinga rufa rufa**  
African Darter  
(3) St Lucia 18.10, Underberg 20.10 and Rietvlei Wetlands (WC) 24.10.

**Sagittarius serpentarius**  
Secretarybird (VU)  
(2) Wakkerstroom 13.10 and Wakkerstroom 14.10.

**Accipitridae**  
Hawks, Eagles, and Kites  
Black-winged Kite  
*Elanus caeruleus caeruleus*  

Bearded Vulture  
*Gypaetus barbatus meridionalis*  
(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

Hooded Vulture (EN)  
*Necrosyrtes monachus*
(2) Kruger NP 10.10 and Kruger NP 11.10.

**White-backed Vulture (NT)**

Gyps africanus

(7) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, observed Kruger NP 9-12.10, Pongola 14.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Cape Vulture (VU)**

Gyps coprotheres

(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

**Lappet-faced Vulture (VU)**

Torgos tracheliotos tracheliotos

(1) Kruger NP 10.10.

**Black-chested Snake Eagle**

Circaetus pectoralis

(2) J G Strijdom Tunnel 9.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

**Brown Snake Eagle**

Circaetus cinereus

(3) Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP 11.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

**Bateleur (NT)**

Terathopius ecaudatus

(4) Observed Kruger NP 10-12.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Crowned Eagle (NT)**

Stephanoaetus coronatus

(1) Umkhumbi Lodge 16.10.

**Martial Eagle (NT)**

Polemaetus bellicosus

(2) Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10 and Karkloof 19.10.

**Long-crested Eagle**

Lophaetus occipitalis


**Lesser Spotted Eagle**

Clanga pomarina

(1) Kruger NP 11.10.

**Wahlberg's Eagle**

Hieraaetus wahlbergi

(3) Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP 11.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Booted Eagle**

Hieraaetus pennatus

(1) Gydo Pass 25.10.

**Tawny Eagle**

Aquila rapax rapax

(3) Observed Kruger NP 9-11.10.

**Verreaux's Eagle**

Aquila verreauxii

(1) Walter Sisulu botanical garden 8.10.

**African Hawk-Eagle**

Aquila spilogaster

(2) Kruger NP 10.10 and Kruger NP 11.10.

**Pale Chanting Goshawk**

Melierax canorus

(1) Karooportoort 25.10.

**African Goshawk**

Accipiter tachiro tachiro

(1) Marutswa NR 19.10.

**Black Sparrowhawk**

Accipiter melanoleucus melanoleucus

(1) Hilton 18.10.

**African Marsh Harrier**

Circus ranivorus

(1) West Coast NP 24.10.

**Black Harrier (VU)**

Circus maurs

(1) West Coast NP 24.10.

**Montagu's Harrier**

Circus pygargus

(1) Wakkerstroom 12.10.

**Yellow-billed Kite**

Milvus aegyptius parasitus

**African Fish Eagle**  
*Haliaeetus vocifer*


**Common Buzzard**  
*Buteo buteo vulpinus*

(3) Karkloof 19.10, Underberg 21.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

**Forest Buzzard**  
*Buteo trizonatus*

(1) Marutswa NR 19.10.

**Jackal Buzzard**  
*Buteo rufofuscus*


**Bustards Otididae**

**Kori Bustard**  
*Ardeotis kori kori*

(1) Kruger NP 10.10.

**White-bellied Bustard**  
*Eupodotis senegalensis barrowii*

(1) Wakkerstroom 14.10.

**Blue Korhaan (NT)**  
*Eupodotis caerulescens*

(1) Wakkerstroom 13.10.

**Karoo Korhaan**  
*Eupodotis vigorsii*

(1) Eierkop 25.10.

**Red-crested Korhaan**  
*Lophotis ruficrsta*

(1) Kruger NP 10.10.

**Southern Black Korhaan**  
*Afrotis afra*

(1) West Coast NP 24.10.

**Northern Black Korhaan**  
*Afrotis afraoides afraoides*

(1) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10.

**Black-bellied Bustard**  
*Lissotis melanogaster notophila*

(1) Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

**Flufftails Sarothuridae**

**Buff-spotted Flufftail**  
*Sarothrura elegans elegans*

(1) iGwalagwala trail 16.10.

**Red-chested Flufftail**  
*Sarothrura rufa rufa*

(1) Wakkerstroom 13.10.

**Rails, Gallinules, and Coots Rallidae**

**African Rail**  
*Rallus caerulescens*

(2) Wakkerstroom 13.10 and Wakkerstroom 14.10.

**Black Crake**  
*Amaurornis flavirostra*


**African Swamphen**  
*Porphyrio madagascariensis*

(4) Observed Wakkerstroom 12-14.10 and Strandfontein Sewage Works 22.10.
**Common Moorhen**  
*Gallinula chloropus meridionalis*  

**Red-knobbed Coot**  
*Fulica cristata*  

**Cranes Gruidae**

**Grey Crowned Crane (VU)**  
*Balearica regulorum regulorum*  
(2) Karkloof 19.10 and Underberg 20.10.

**Blue Crane (VU)**  
*Grus paradisea*  

**Wattled Crane**  
*Grus carunculata*  
(1) Karkloof 19.10.

**Buttonquails Turnicidae**

**Common Buttonquail**  
*Turnix sylvaticus lepurana*  
(1) Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 16.10.

**Thick-knees Burhinidae**

**Water Thick-knee**  
*Burhinus vermiculatus vermiculatus*  
(3) Kruger NP 10.10, St Lucia 17.10 and Strandfontein Sewage Works 22.10.

**Oystercatchers Haematopodidae**

**African Oystercatcher (NT)**  
*Haematopus moquini*  
(3) Cape Town pelagic 22.10, Stony Point 23.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

**Stilts and Avocets Recurvirostridae**

**Black-winged Stilt**  
*Himantopus himantopus*  

**Pied Avocet**  
*Recurvirostra avosetta*  
(2) Strandfontein Sewage Works 22.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

**Plovers and Lapwings Charadriidae**

**Blacksmith Lapwing**  
*Vanellus armatus*  

**White-crowned Lapwing**  
*Vanellus albiceps*  
(1) Kruger NP 11.10.

**Crowned Lapwing**  
*Vanellus coronatus*  
(3) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, Wakkerstroom 13.10 and Wakkerstroom 14.10.

**African Wattled Lapwing**  
*Vanellus senegallus lateralis*
(4) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, Dullstroom 9.10, Wakkerstroom 14.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

**Grey Plover**
- *Pluvialis squatarola squatarola*
- (1) West Coast NP 24.10.

**Common Ringed Plover**
- *Charadrius hiaticula tundrae*
- (5) Mkuze GR 15.10, St Lucia 17.10, St Lucia 18.10, Strandfontein Sewage Works 22.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

**Kittlitz’s Plover**
- *Charadrius pecuarius*
- (4) Mkuze GR 15.10, St Lucia 17.10, Strandfontein Sewage Works 22.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

**Three-banded Plover**
- *Charadrius tricolor tricolor*
- (10) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP 11.10, observed Wakkerstroom 12-14.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, St Lucia 17.10, Darvill Sewage Works 21.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

**White-fronted Plover**
- *Charadrius marginatus*
- (1) Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

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**Jacanas Jacanidae**

**African Jacana**
- *Actophilornis africanus*
- (4) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, Kruger NP 11.10, St Lucia 18.10 and Darvill Sewage Works 21.10.

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**Sandpipers and Allies Scolopacidae**

**African Snipe**
- *Gallinago nigripennis nigripennis*
- (3) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, Wakkerstroom 12.10 and Skittery Kroef 25.10.

**Bar-tailed Godwit**
- *Limosa lapponica lapponica*
- (3) St Lucia 17.10, Strandfontein Sewage Works 22.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

**Whimbrel**
- *Numenius phaeopus phaeopus*
- (1) West Coast NP 24.10.

**Eurasian Curlew (NT)**
- *Numenius arquata orientalis*
- (1) West Coast NP 24.10.

**Marsh Sandpiper**
- *Actitis hypoleucos*
- (1) West Coast NP 24.10.

**Common Greenshank**
- *Tringa stagnatilis*
- (2) Mkuze GR 15.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

**Green Sandpiper**
- *Tringa ochropus*
- (1) Darvill Sewage Works 21.10.

**Wood Sandpiper**
- *Tringa glareola*

**Terek Sandpiper**
- *Xenus cinereus*
- (2) Umlalazi NR 18.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

**Common Sandpiper**
- *Actitis hypoleucos*
- (3) Kruger NP 10.10, Mkuze GR 15.10 and Darvill Sewage Works 21.10.

**Ruddy Turnstone**
- *Arenaria interpres interpres*
- (1) Strandfontein Sewage Works 22.10.

**Sanderling**
- *Calidris alba alba*
- (2) St Lucia 17.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.
Little Stint  
*Calidris minuta*  

Curlew Sandpiper  
*Calidris ferruginea*  
(3) St Lucia 17.10, Umlalazi NR 18.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

Ruff  
*Philomachus pugnax*  

**Pratincoles and Coursers Glareolidae**

Collared Pratincole  
*Glareola pratincola fuelleborni*  
(2) Mkuze GR 15.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

**Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers Laridae**

Grey-headed Gull  
*Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus pociocephalus*  

Hartlaub's Gull  
*Chroicocephalus hartlaubii*  
(3) Cape Town pelagic 22.10, Stony Point 23.10 and Rietvlei Wetlands (WC) 24.10.

Kelp Gull  
*Larus dominicanus*  
(3) Cape Town pelagic 22.10, Stony Point 23.10 and Rietvlei Wetlands (WC) 24.10.

Caspian Tern  
*Hydroprogne caspia*  
(3) St Lucia 16.10, St Lucia 17.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

Greater Crested Tern  
*Thalasseus bergii bergii*  
(4) St Lucia 17.10, Cape Town pelagic 22.10, Stony Point 23.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

Sandwich Tern  
*Thalasseus sandvicensis*  
(1) Strandfontein Sewage Works 22.10.

Common Tern  
*Sterna hirundo hirundo*  
(3) St Lucia 17.10, Cape Town pelagic 22.10 and Stony Point 23.10.

Arctic Tern  
*Sterna paradisaea*  
(1) Cape Town pelagic 22.10.

Whiskered Tern  
*Chlidonias hybrida delalandii*  

White-winged Tern  
*Chlidonias leucopterus*  
(2) Mkuze GR 15.10 and Strandfontein Sewage Works 22.10.

**Skuas and Jaegers Stercorariidae**

Brown Skua  
*Stercorarius antarcticus*  
(1) Cape Town pelagic 22.10.

Pomarine Skua  
*Stercorarius pomarinus*  
(1) Cape Town pelagic 22.10.

**Pigeons and Doves Columbidae**

Rock Dove  
*Columba livia livia*

**Speckled Pigeon** *Columba guinea phaeonota*

**African Olive Pigeon** *Columba arquatrix*
(2) Walter Sisulu botanical garden 8.10 and Marutswa NR 19.10.

**Lemon Dove** *Columba larvata larvata*
(1) Dlinza Forest NR 18.10.

**Mourning Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decipiens ambigua*
(2) Kruger NP - Satara Restcamp 10.10 and Kruger NP - Satara Restcamp 11.10.

**Red-eyed Dove** *Streptopelia semitorquata*

**Ring-necked Dove** *Streptopelia capicola*
(6) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, observed Kruger NP 9-12.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Laughing Dove** *Spilopelia senegalensis senegalensis*

**Emerald-spotted Wood Dove** *Turtur chalcospilos*
(2) Kruger NP 10.10 and Kruger NP 11.10.

**Tambourine Dove** *Turtur tympanistria*
(1) Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Namaqua Dove** *Oena capensis capensis*
(3) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, West Coast NP 24.10 and Karooopoot 25.10.

**African Green Pigeon** *Treron calvus delalandii*
(4) Kruger NP 11.10, iGwalagwala trail 16.10, iGwalagwala trail 17.10 and Kingfisher Lodge, St Lucia 18.10.

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**Turacos Musophagidae**

**Livingstone's Turaco** *Tauraco livingstonii reichenowi*
(2) iGwalagwala trail 16.10 and iGwalagwala trail 17.10.

**Purple-crested Turaco** *Tauraco porphyreolophus porphyreolophus*
(4) Kruger NP 11.10, Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 12.10, Mkuze GR 15.10 and Umlalazi NR 18.10.

**Grey Go-away-bird** *Corythaixoides concolor*
(5) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10 and observed Kruger NP 9-12.10.

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**Cuckoos Cuculidae**

**Burchell's Coucal** *Centropus burchellii burchellii*
(1) Kruger NP 10.10.

**Diederik Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx caprius*
(2) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10 and Kruger NP 11.10.

**Klaas's Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx klaas*
(3) Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP 12.10 and Umhlanga 21.10.
African Emerald Cuckoo
(1) Dlinza Forest NR 18.10.

Black Cuckoo
(1) Karkloof 19.10.

Red-chested Cuckoo
(3) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, Benvie Farm, Karkloof 19.10 and Sani Pass 20.10.

Owls Strigidae

African Scops Owl
(1) Kruger NP - Satara Restcamp 10.10.

Southern White-faced Owl
(1) Kruger NP 10.10.

Cape Eagle-Owl
(1) Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 16.10.

Nightjars and Allies Caprimulgidae

Fiery-necked Nightjar
(1) Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 16.10.

Swamp Nightjar
(1) Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 16.10.

Square-tailed Nightjar
(1) Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 16.10.

Swifts Apodidae

African Palm Swift

Alpine Swift
(1) Pongola 14.10.

African Black Swift
(1) Pongola 14.10.

Little Swift

Horus Swift
(1) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10.

White-rumped Swift

Mousebirds Coliidae

Speckled Mousebird

White-backed Mousebird
(2) West Coast NP 24.10 and Skitterykloof 25.10.
Red-faced Mousebird  
*Urococilius indicus*  
(2) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Trogons Trogonidae**

Narina Trogon  
*Apaloderma narina narina*  
(3) Umkhumbi Lodge 16.10, iGwalagwala trail 17.10 and Dlinza Forest NR 18.10.

**Rollers Coraciidae**

(1) Kruger NP 10.10.  
**Lilac-breasted Roller**  
*Coracias caudatus caudatus*  
(4) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10 and observed Kruger NP 9-11.10.  
**Broad-billed Roller**  
*Eurystomus glaucurus suahelicus*  
(1) Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Kingfishers Alcedinidae**

Brown-hooded Kingfisher  
*Halcyon albiventris*  
(7) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP 11.10, Umkhumbi Lodge 14.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, St Lucia 17.10 and Kingfisher Lodge, St Lucia 18.10.  
**Malachite Kingfisher**  
*Corythornis cristatus cristatus*  
(2) Karkloof 19.10 and Sani Pass 20.10.  
**Giant Kingfisher**  
*Megaceryle maxima maxima*  
(2) Kruger NP 11.10 and Wakkerstroom 13.10.  
**Pied Kingfisher**  
*Ceryle rudis rudis*  
(4) Observed Kruger NP 10-12.10 and St Lucia 17.10.

**Bee-eaters Meropidae**

Little Bee-eater  
*Merops pusillus meridionalis*  
(2) Mkuze GR 15.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.  
**White-fronted Bee-eater**  
*Merops bullockoides*  
(3) Kruger NP 11.10, Kruger NP 12.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.  
**European Bee-eater**  
*Merops apiaster*  
(2) Mkuze GR 15.10 and St Lucia 16.10.

**Hoopoes Upupiidae**

African Hoopoe  
*Upupa africana*  

**Woodhoopoes and Scimitar-bills Phoeniculidae**

Green Wood Hoopoe  
*Phoeniculus purpureus*  
(4) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, Kruger NP - Satara Restecamp 9.10, Kruger NP 10.10 and Kruger NP 11.10.  
**Common Scimitarbill**  
*Rhinopomastus cyanomelas*  
(3) Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP 11.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Ground Hornbills Bucorvidae**
Southern Ground Hornbill (VU)  
*Bucorvus leadbeateri*  
(2) Kruger NP 11.10 and Marutswa NR 19.10.

**Hornbills Bucerotidae**

Southern Red-billed Hornbill  
*Tockus rufirostris*  
(4) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10 and observed Kruger NP 9-11.10.

Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill  
*Tockus leucomelas leucomelas*  
(5) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10 and observed Kruger NP 9-12.10.

Crowned Hornbill  
*Lophoceros alboterminalus suahelicus*  
(2) Mkuze GR 15.10 and Kingfisher Lodge, St Lucia 18.10.

African Grey Hornbill  
*Lophoceros nasutus epirhinus*  
(2) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10 and Kruger NP 11.10.

Trumpeter Hornbill  
*Bycanistes bucinator*  
(3) Mkuze GR 15.10, iGwalagwala trail 17.10 and Kingfisher Lodge, St Lucia 18.10.

**African Barbets Lybiidae**

White-eared Barbet  
*Stactolaema leucotis leucotis*  
(1) iGwalagwala trail 17.10.

Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird  
*Pogoniulus bilineatus bilineatus*  
(3) St Lucia 16.10, St Lucia 17.10 and Umhlanga 21.10.

Red-fronted Tinkerbird  
*Pogoniulus pusillus pusillus*  
(1) Umkhumbi Lodge 16.10.

Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird  
*Pogoniulus chrysoconus extoni*  
(1) Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 12.10.

Black-collared Barbet  
*Lybius torquatus torquatus*  

Crested Barbet  
*Trachyphonus vaillantii vaillantii*  

**Honeyguides Indicatoridae**

Brown-backed Honeybird  
*Prodotiscus regulus regulus*  
(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

Lesser Honeyguide  
*Indicator minor minor*  
(1) Walter Sisulo botanical garden 8.10.

Scaly-throated Honeyguide  
*Indicator variegatus*  
(1) Dlinza Forest NR 18.10.

**Woodpeckers Picidae**

Red-throated Wryneck  
*Jynx ruficollis ruficollis*  

Golden-tailed Woodpecker  
*Campethera abingoni*  
(3) Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 12.10, Mkuze GR 15.10 and St Lucia 17.10.

Ground Woodpecker  
*Geocolaptes olivaceus*  
Cardinal Woodpecker
(4) Kruger NP 11.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, Pigeon Valley NR 21.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.
Bearded Woodpecker
(3) Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP 12.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.
Olive Woodpecker
(1) Dlinza Forest NR 18.10.

**Falcons and Caracaras Falconidae**

Rock Kestrel
(3) Simon's Town 22.10, West Coast NP 24.10 and Skitterykloof 25.10.
Lanner Falcon
(1) Dullstroom 9.10.

**African & New World Parrots Psittacidae**

Cape Parrot
(1) Marutswa NR 19.10.
Brown-headed Parrot
(2) Kruger NP 10.10 and Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 12.10.

**Wattle-eyes and Batises Platysteiridae**

Cape Batis
Woodward's Batis
(1) Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.
Chinspot Batis
(4) Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP 11.10, Mkuze GR 15.10 and Umkhumbi Lodge 16.10.
Pritir Batis
(1) Karoopoort 25.10.
Black-throated Wattle-eye
(1) Umhlanga 21.10.

**Helmetshrikes and Allies Prionopidae**

White-crested Helmetshrike
(1) Mkuze GR 15.10.
Retz's Helmetshrike
(1) Kruger NP 11.10.

**Bushshrikes and Allies Malaconotidae**

Grey-headed Bushshrike
(1) Kruger NP 11.10.
Orange-breasted Bushshrike
(5) Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP 12.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, St Lucia 16.10 and St Lucia 17.10.
Gorgeous Bushshrike
(2) Umkhumbi Lodge 14.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.
Bokmakierie
Brown-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra australis* (3) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, Kruger NP 11.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.


Crimson-breasted Shrike *Laniarius atrococcineus* (1) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10.

Brubru *Nilaus afer* (1) Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Cuckoo-shrikes Campephagidae**

Grey Cuckooshrike *Coracina caesia caesia* (1) Benvie Farm, Karkloof 19.10.

Black Cuckooshrike *Campephaga flava* (2) Kruger NP 12.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Shrikes Laniidae**

Magpie Shrike *Urolestes melanoleucus* (4) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10 and observed Kruger NP 9-11.10.

Southern White-crowned Shrike *Eurocephalus anguitimens* (1) Kruger NP 11.10.


**Old World Orioles Oriolidae**

Black-headed Oriole *Oriolus larvatus larvatus* (3) Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP 12.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Drongos Dicruridae**

Square-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus ludwigii ludwigii* (5) Umkhumbi Lodge 14.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, Umkhumbi Lodge 16.10, Kingfisher Lodge, St Lucia 17.10 and iGwalagwala trail 18.10.


**Monarch Flycatchers Monarchidae**

Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher *Trochocercus cyanomelas* (2) Umkhumbi Lodge 14.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

Crows, Jays, and Magpies *Corvidae*

**Cape Crow**  *Corvus capensis capensis*

**Pied Crow**  *Corvus albus*

**White-necked Raven**  *Corvus albicollis*

**Rockjumpers Chaetopidae**

**Cape Rockjumper**  *Chaetops frenatus*
(1) Rooi-Els 23.10.

**Drakensberg Rockjumper**  *Chaetops aurantius*
(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

**Fairy Flycatchers Stenostiridae**

**Fairy Flycatcher**  *Stenostira scita*
(2) Sani Pass 20.10 and Eierkop 25.10.

**Chickadees and Tits Paridae**

**Southern Black Tit**  *Melaniparus niger*
(5) Observed Kruger NP 9-12.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Grey Tit**  *Melaniparus afer*
(2) Sani Pass 20.10 and Eierkop 25.10.

**Eastern Nicator**  *Nicator gularis*
(2) Umkhumbi Lodge 15.10 and Umkhumbi Lodge 16.10.

**Larks Alaudidae**

**Spike-heeled Lark**  *Chersomanes albofasciata*
(2) Wakkerstroom 13.10 and Karooopoot 25.10.

**Eastern Long-billed Lark**  *Certhilauda semitorquata*
(2) Wakkerstroom 13.10 and Wakkerstroom 14.10.

**Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark**  *Eremopterix leucotis smithi*
(1) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10.

**Sabota Lark**  *Calendulauda sabota*
(1) Kruger NP 10.10.

**Karoo Lark**  *Calendulauda albescens*
(1) Eierkop 25.10.

**Rudd's Lark (VU)**  *Heteromirafra ruddi*
(1) Wakkerstroom 13.10.

**Rufous-naped Lark**  *Mirafra africana*
(2) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10 and Wakkerstroom 13.10.

**Botha's Lark (EN)**  
*Spizocorys fringillaris*

(1) Wakkerstroom 13.10.

**Pink-billed Lark**  
*Spizocorys conirostris*

(1) Wakkerstroom 13.10.

**Large-billed Lark**  
*Galerida magnirostris*

(2) Sani Pass 20.10 and Karooopoor 25.10.

**Red-capped Lark**  
*Calandrella cinerea cinerea*

(2) Wakkerstroom 13.10 and Wakkerstroom 14.10.

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**Bulbs Pycnonotidae**

**Cape Bulbul**  
*Pycnonotus capensis*


**Dark-capped Bulbul**  
*Pycnonotus tricolor layardi*


**Sombre Greenbul**  
*Andropadus importunus*


**Yellow-bellied Greenbul**  
*Chlorocichla flaviventris*

(2) Umkumbi Lodge 16.10 and iGwalagwala trail 17.10.

**Terrestrial Brownbul**  
*Phyllastrephus terrestris*

(3) Umkumbi Lodge 15.10, Kingfisher Lodge, St Lucia 16.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

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**Swallows Hirundinidae**

**Black Saw-wing**  
*Psalidoprocne pristoptera holomelas*


**Brown-throated Martin**  
*Riparia paludicola paludicola*


**Sand Martin**  
*Riparia riparia riparia*

(1) Wakkerstroom 12.10.

**Banded Martin**  
*Riparia cincta cincta*

(1) Wakkerstroom 12.10.

**Barn Swallow**  
*Hirundo rustica rustica*


**White-throated Swallow**  
*Hirundo albigularis*


**Wire-tailed Swallow**  
*Hirundo smithii smithii*

(1) Kruger NP 10.10.
Rock Martin  
*Ptyonoprogne fuligula*  
(2) Kruger NP 9.10 and Harold Porter Botanical Garden 23.10.

Common House Martin  
*Delichon urbicum urbicum*  
(1) Kruger NP 12.10.

Greater Striped Swallow  
*Cecropis cucullata*  

Lesser Striped Swallow  
*Cecropis abyssinica unitatis*  

Red-breasted Swallow  
*Cecropis semirufa semirufa*  
(5) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP 11.10, Mkuze GR 15.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

Mosque Swallow  
*Cecropis senegalensis monteiri*  
(1) Kruger NP 11.10.

South African Cliff Swallow  
*Petrochelidon spilodera*  
(2) Wakkerstroom 13.10 and Wakkerstroom 14.10.

**Crombecs, African warblers *Macrosphenidae***

Cape Grassbird  
*Sphenoeacus afer*  

Long-billed Crombec  
*Sylvietta rufescens*  

Victorin's Warbler  
*Cryptillas victorini*  
(1) Rooi-Els 23.10.

**Leaf-Warblers *Phylloscopidae***

Yellow-throated Woodland Warbler  
*Phylloscopus ruficapilla*  
(1) Marutswa NR 19.10.

**Reed-Warblers and Allies *Acrocephalidae***

Lesser Swamp Warbler  
*Acrocephalus gracilirostris*  

African Reed Warbler  
*Acrocephalus baeticatus*  
(1) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10.

African Yellow Warbler  
*Iduna natalensis natalensis*  
(1) Wakkerstroom 12.10.

Icterine Warbler  
*Hippolais icterina*  
(1) Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 12.10.

**Grassbirds and Allies *Locustellidae***

Little Rush Warbler  
*Bradypterus baboeaca*  
(1) Darvill Sewage Works 21.10.

Barratt's Warbler  
*Bradypterus barratti*
(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

Cisticolas and Allies Cisticolidae

**Rattling Cisticola**  
*Cisticola chiniana*  
(7) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, observed Kruger NP 10-12.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10 and St Lucia 18.10.

**Grey-backed Cisticola**  
*Cisticola subruficapilla*  
(1) Karopooparto 25.10.

**Wailing Cisticola**  
*Cisticola lais*  

**Rufous-winged Cisticola**  
*Cisticola galactotes galactotes*  
(1) Umhlanga 21.10.

**Levaillant’s Cisticola**  
*Cisticola tinniens*  

**Nedicky**  
*Cisticola fulvicapilla*  
(1) Ceres 25.10.

**Zitting Cisticola**  
*Cisticola juncidis terrestris*  
(1) Underberg 21.10.

**Pale-crowned Cisticola**  
*Cisticola cinnamomeus egregius*  
(1) Wakkerstroom 14.10.

**Tawny-flanked Prinia**  
*Prinia subflava*  

**Black-chested Prinia**  
*Prinia flavicans*  
(1) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10.

**Karoo Prinia**  
*Prinia maculosa*  
(3) Rooi-Els 23.10, West Coast NP 24.10 and Ceres 25.10.

**Drakensberg Prinia**  
*Prinia hypoxantha*  

**Namaqua Warbler**  
*Phragmacia substriata*  
(1) Karoooparto 25.10.

**Bar-throated Apalis**  
*Apalis thoracica*  
(3) Benvie Farm, Karkloof 19.10, Umhlanga 21.10 and Karopooparto 25.10.

**Rudd’s Apalis**  
*Apalis ruddi fumosa*  
(2) Umkhumbi Lodge 15.10 and iGwalagwala trail 17.10.

**Yellow-breasted Apalis**  
*Apalis flavida*  

**Rufous-eared Warbler**  
*Malcorus pectoralis*  
(1) Eierkop 25.10.

**Green-backed Camaroptera**  
*Camaroptera brachyura*  
(5) Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 12.10, Umkhumbi Lodge 14.10, Mkuze GR 15.10 and St Lucia 18.10.

**Cinnamon-breasted Warbler**  
*Euryptila subcinnamomea*  
(1) Kruger NP - Skukuza 25.10.

**Yellow-bellied Eremomela**  
*Eremomela icteropygialis*
(1) Karoopoort 25.10.
**Karoo Eremomela**
*Eremomela gregalis gregalis*
(1) Eierkop 25.10.
**Burnt-necked Eremomela**
*Eremomela usticollis usticollis*
(1) Kruger NP - Satara Restcamp 10.10.

**Laughingthrushes Leiothrichidae**

**Arrow-marked Babbler**
(3) Observed Kruger NP 10-12.10.

**Southern Pied Babbler**
(1) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10.

**Old World Warblers Sylviidae**

**Bush Blackcap (NT)**
(1) Benvie Farm, Karkloof 19.10.

**Chestnut-vented Warbler**
(1) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10.

**Layard’s Warbler**
(2) Sani Pass 20.10 and Kruger NP - Skukuza 25.10.

**Yuhinas, White-eyes, and Allies Zosteropidae**

**Cape White-eye**

**African Yellow White-eye**
(1) Kingfisher Lodge, St Lucia 17.10.

**Sugarbirds Promeropidae**

**Cape Sugarbird**
(2) Rooi-Els 23.10 and Gydo Pass 25.10.

**Gurney’s Sugarbird**
(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

**Starlings Sturnidae**

**Common Myna**

**Common Starling**
(4) Simon’s Town 22.10, Stony Point 23.10, Ceres 24.10 and Karoopoort 25.10.

**Wattled Starling**
(1) Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 11.10.

**Black-bellied Starling**
(1) Dlinza Forest NR 18.10.

**Cape Starling**
*Lamprotornis nitens*

**Greater Blue-eared Starling**  
*lamprotornis chalybaeus nordmanni*

(3) Kruger NP - Satara Restcamp 10.10, Kruger NP 11.10 and Kruger NP 12.10.

**Burchell's Starling**  
*lamprotornis australis*

(4) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10 and observed Kruger NP 9-11.10.

**Pied Starling**  
*lamprotornis bicolor*


**Violet-backed Starling**  
*Cinnyricinclus leucogaster verreauxi*

(1) Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 12.10.

**Red-winged Starling**  
*Onychognathus morio morio*


**Oxpeckers Buphagidae**

**Red-billed Oxpecker**  
*Buphagus erythrorhynchus*

(5) Observed Kruger NP 9-12.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Thrushes and Allies Turdidae**

**Orange Ground Thrush**  
*Geokichla gurneyi*

(1) Benvie Farm, Karkloof 19.10.

**Spotted Ground Thrush**  
*Geokichla guttata guttata*

(1) Dlinza Forest NR 18.10.

**Groundscraper Thrush**  
*Turdus litsitsirupa litsitsirupa*

(1) Kruger NP 9.10.

**Kurrichane Thrush**  
*Turdus libonyana*

(1) Pigeon Valley NR 21.10.

**Olive Thrush**  
*Turdus olivaceus*


**Karoo Thrush**  
*Turdus smithi*

(2) Johannesburg 8.10 and Johannesburg 9.10.

**Old World Flycatchers Muscicapidae**

**Karoo Scrub Robin**  
*Cercotrichas coryphoeus*

(2) West Coast NP 24.10 and Karoopoort 25.10.

**Bearded Scrub Robin**  
*Cercotrichas quadrivirgata quadrivirgata*

(1) Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Kalahari Scrub Robin**  
*Cercotrichas paena*

(1) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10.

**White-browed Scrub Robin**  
*Cercotrichas leucophrys leucophrys*

(2) Kruger NP 10.10 and Kruger NP 11.10.

**Brown Scrub Robin**  
*Cercotrichas signata*

(1) Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

**Grey Tit-Flycatcher**  
*Myioparus plumbeus*
Southern Black Flycatcher  
*Melaenornis pammelaina*

(2) Kruger NP 10.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

Marico Flycatcher  
*Melaenornis mariquensis*

(1) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10.

Fiscal Flycatcher  
*Melaenornis silens*


Ashy Flycatcher  
*Muscicapa caerulescens*

(1) Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 12.10.

African Dusky Flycatcher  
*Muscicapa adusta*


Cape Robin-Chat  
*Cossypha caffra*


Red-capped Robin-Chat  
*Cossypha natalensis*

(3) Observed Kingfisher Lodge, St Lucia 16-18.10.

Chorister Robin-Chat  
*Cossypha dichroa*

(1) Dlinza Forest NR 18.10.

White-starred Robin  
*Pogonocichla stellata*

(1) 1 Marutswa NR 19.10.

Cape Rock Thrush  
*Monticola rupestris*

(2) Sani Pass 20.10 and Harold Porter Botanical Garden 23.10.

Sentinel Rock Thrush  
*Monticola explorator*


African Stonechat  
*Saxicola torquatus*


Buff-streaked Chat  
*Campicoloides bifasciatus*

(1) Wakkerstroom 13.10.

Sickle-winged Chat  
*Emarginata sinuata*

(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

Karoo Chat  
*Emarginata schlegelii*

(1) Karoopoort 25.10.

Tractrac Chat  
*Emarginata tractrac*

(1) Eierkop 25.10.

Mocking Cliff Chat  
*Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris*

(1) J G Strijdom Tunnel 9.10.

Ant-eating Chat  
*Myrmecocichla formicivora*

(2) Wakkerstroom 13.10 and Wakkerstroom 14.10.

Mountain Wheatear  
*Myrmecocichla monticola monticola*


Capped Wheatear  
*Oenanthe pileata*

(3) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, Wakkerstroom 13.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

Familiar Chat  
*Oenanthe familiaris*

**Sunbirds and Spiderhunters Nectariniidae**

**Collared Sunbird**
*Hedydipna collaris*
(5) Kingfisher Lodge, St Lucia 16.10, iGwalagwala trail 17.10, Dlinza Forest NR 18.10, Marutswa NR 19.10 and Pigeon Valley NR 21.10.

**Orange-breasted Sunbird**
*Anthobaphes violacea*
(1) Rooi-Els 23.10.

**Olive Sunbird**
*Cyanomitra olivacea*
(2) Kingfisher Lodge, St Lucia 17.10 and Pigeon Valley NR 21.10.

**Grey Sunbird**
*Cyanomitra veroxii*
(1) Umkhumbi Lodge 16.10.

**Amethyst Sunbird**
*Chalcomitra amethystina*
(2) Underberg 19.10 and Sani Pass 20.10.

**Scarlet-chested Sunbird**
*Chalcomitra senegalensis gutturalis*
(1) Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 12.10.

**Malachite Sunbird**
*Nectarinia famosa famosa*

**Southern Double-collared Sunbird**
*Cinnyris chalybeus*

**Greater Double-collared Sunbird**
*Cinnyris afer*
(2) Walter Sisulo botanical garden 8.10 and Sani Pass 20.10.

**Marico Sunbird**
*Cinnyris mariquensis mariquensis*
(6) Observed Kruger NP 10-12.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, Umkhumbi Lodge 16.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

**Purple-banded Sunbird**
*Cinnyris bifasciatus*
(4) Umkhumbi Lodge 14.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, Umkhumbi Lodge 16.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

**White-bellied Sunbird**
*Cinnyris talatala*
(7) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, observed Kruger NP 9-12.10, Mkuze GR 15.10 and Kingfisher Lodge, St Lucia 16.10.

**Dusky Sunbird**
*Cinnyris fuscus fuscus*
(1) Skitterykloof 25.10.

**Old World Sparrows Passeridae**

**White-browed Sparrow-Weaver**
*Plocepasser mahali mahali*
(1) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10.

**House Sparrow**
*Passer domesticus*

**Great Sparrow**
*Passer motitensis*
(1) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10.

**Cape Sparrow**
*Passer melanurus*

**Southern Grey-headed Sparrow**
*Passer diffusus*
(6) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, observed Kruger NP 10-12.10, Mkuze GR 15.10 and Sani Pass 20.10.

**Yellow-throated Petronia**
*Gymnoris supercilious*
(2) Kruger NP 11.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Weavers and Allies Ploceidae**

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<td><strong>Scaly-feathered Weaver</strong></td>
<td><em>Sporopipes squamifrons</em></td>
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<td>(1) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10.</td>
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<td><strong>Thick-billed Weaver</strong></td>
<td><em>Amblyospiza albifrons</em></td>
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<td>(1) Pigeon Valley NR 21.10.</td>
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<td>(2) Kruger NP 10.10 and Umhlanga 21.10.</td>
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<td><strong>Cape Weaver</strong></td>
<td><em>Ploceus capensis</em></td>
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<td><strong>Eastern Golden Weaver</strong></td>
<td><em>Ploceus subaureus subaureus</em></td>
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<td><strong>Southern Brown-throated Weaver</strong></td>
<td><em>Ploceus xanthopterus marleyi</em></td>
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<td>(1) St Lucia 16.10.</td>
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<td><strong>Lesser Masked Weaver</strong></td>
<td><em>Ploceus intermedius cabanisii</em></td>
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<td><em>Ploceus velatus</em></td>
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<td><strong>Village Weaver</strong></td>
<td><em>Ploceus cucullatus</em></td>
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<td><strong>Dark-backed Weaver</strong></td>
<td><em>Ploceus bicolor</em></td>
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<td>(2) iGwalagwala trail 17.10 and Marutswa NR 19.10.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Red-headed Weaver</strong></td>
<td><em>Anaplectes rubriceps rubriceps</em></td>
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<td>(1) Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 12.10.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Red-billed Quelea</strong></td>
<td><em>Quelea quelea lathamii</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>(6) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, Dullstroom 9.10, observed Wakkerstroom 12-14.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Southern Red Bishop</strong></td>
<td><em>Euplectes orix</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yellow Bishop</strong></td>
<td><em>Euplectes capensis</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fan-tailed Widowbird</strong></td>
<td><em>Euplectes axillaris axillaris</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Rockjumper Birding Tours
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(3) St Lucia 17.10, St Lucia 18.10 and Karkloof 19.10.

**Red-collared Widowbird**
Euplectes ardens ardens
(1) Karkloof 19.10.

**Long-tailed Widowbird**
Euplectes progne progne

### Waxbills and Allies Estrildidae

**Green-winged Pytilia**
Pytilia melba melba
(2) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10 and Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 11.10.

**Red-headed Finch**
Amadina erythrocephala
(3) Observed Johannesburg 7-9.10.

**Green Twinspot**
Mandingoa nitidula nitidula
(1) St Lucia 17.10.

**Pink-throated Twinspot**
Hypargos margaritatus
(1) Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Red-billed Firefinch**
Lagonosticta senegala rendalli
(1) iGwalagwala trail 16.10.

**Blue Waxbill**
Uraeginthus angolensis niassensis
(4) Zaagkuildrift Road 8.10, Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 11.10, Kruger NP 12.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Swee Waxbill**
Coccopygia melanotis
(2) Benvie Farm, Karkloof 19.10 and Harold Porter Botanical Garden 23.10.

**Common Waxbill**
Estrilda astrild

**Quailfinch**
Ortygospiza atricollis digressa
(1) Wakkerstroom 13.10.

**Bronze Mannikin**
Lonchura cucullata scutata
(2) Mkuze GR 15.10 and Umkhumbi Lodge 16.10.

**Red-backed Mannikin**
Lonchura nigriceps
(2) Benvie Farm, Karkloof 19.10 and Pigeon Valley NR 21.10.

### Indigobirds Viduidae

**Pin-tailed Whydah**
Vidua macroura

### Wagtails and Pipits Motacillidae

**Cape Wagtail**
Motacilla capensis capensis

**Mountain Wagtail**
Motacilla clara torrentium
(1) J G Strijdom Tunnel 9.10.

**African Pied Wagtail**
Motacilla aguimp
(5) Kruger NP 11.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, St Lucia 16.10, Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10 and Umlalazi NR 18.10.
Cape Longclaw  
*Macronyx capensis*  

Yellow-throated Longclaw  
*Macronyx croceus*  
(1) Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 12.10.

**African Pipit**  
*Anthus cinnamomeus*  

**Mountain Pipit**  
*Anthus hoeschi*  
(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

**Long-billed Pipit**  
*Anthus similis*  
(1) Wakkerstroom 13.10.

**Striped Pipit**  
*Anthus lineiventris*  
(1) J G Strijdom Tunnel 9.10.

**African Rock Pipit**  
*Anthus crenatus*  
(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

**Yellow-breasted Pipit (VU)**  
*Anthus chloris*  
(1) Wakkerstroom 14.10.

**Finches, Euphonias Fringillidae**

**Forest Canary**  
*Crithagra scotops*  
(1) Benvie Farm, Karkloof 19.10.

**Yellow-fronted Canary**  
*Crithagra mozambica*  
(5) Observed Kruger NP 10-12.10, Mkuze GR 15.10 and Benvie Farm, Karkloof 19.10.

**Cape Siskin**  
*Crithagra totta*  
(1) Harold Porter Botanical Garden 23.10.

**Drakensberg Siskin**  
*Crithagra symonsi*  
(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

**Yellow Canary**  
*Crithagra flaviventris*  
(2) West Coast NP 24.10 and Karoopoort 25.10.

**Brimstone Canary**  
*Crithagra sulphurata*  
(2) Sani Pass 20.10 and Rooi-Els 23.10.

**Streaky-headed Seedeater**  
*Crithagra gularis*  
(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

**White-throated Canary**  
*Crithagra albogularis*  
(2) West Coast NP 24.10 and Karoopoort 25.10.

**Protea Canary**  
*Crithagra leucoptera*  
(1) Du Toitskloof Pass 26.10.

**Cape Canary**  
*Serinus canicollis canicollis*  

**Buntings, Sparrows and Allies Emberizidae**

**Cinnamon-breasted Bunting**  
*Emberiza tahapisi tahapisi*  
(1) Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 11.10.

**Cape Bunting**  
*Emberiza capensis*

**Golden-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza flaviventris*

(3) Kruger NP 11.10, Mkuze GR 15.10 and Umkhumbi Lodge 16.10.
Mammals (48 in total: 48 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

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

Black-backed Jackal
(1) Kruger NP 10.10.

**Cats Felidae**

Wild Cat
(1) Kruger NP 10.10.

Lion
(2) Kruger NP 10.10 and Kruger NP 11.10.

**Mongooses Herpestidae**

Yellow Mongoose
(1) Wakkerstroom 13.10.

Common Dwarf Mongoose
(2) Kruger NP 10.10 and Kruger NP 11.10.

Cape Grey Mongoose
(2) Strandfontein Sewage Works 22.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

Slender Mongoose
(3) Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP 12.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

Banded Mongoose
(1) Umhlanga 21.10.

Meerkat
(1) Wakkerstroom 13.10.

**Hyenas, Aardwolf Hyaenidae**

Spotted Hyena
(3) Observed Kruger NP 9-11.10.

**Weasels, Skunks, Otters Mustelidae**

Spotted-necked Otter
(1) Wakkerstroom 12.10.

**Sea Lions Otariidae**

Afro-Australian Fur Seal
(2) Cape Town pelagic 22.10 and Simon's Town 23.10.
Vivets, Genets Viverridae
Civettictis civetta

Rorquals Balaenopteridae
Balaenoptera edeni

Cattle, Antelopes, Sheep, Goats Bovidae

African Civet
Civettictis civetta
(1) Kruger NP 10.10.

Bryde's Whale
Balaenoptera edeni
(1) Simon's Town 22.10.

Impala
Aepyceros melampus melampus
(7) Observed Kruger NP 9-12.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, St Lucia 16.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

Natal Red Duiker
Cephalophus natalensis
(5) Umkumbi Lodge 14.10, Umkumbi Lodge 16.10, iGwalagwala trail 17.10, Kingfisher Lodge, St Lucia 18.10 and Pigeon Valley NR 21.10.

Black Wildebeest
Connchaetes gnou
(1) Wakkerstroom 14.10.

Common Wildebeest
Connchaetes taurinus
(6) Observed Kruger NP 10-12.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, St Lucia 16.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

Blesbok
Damaliscus pygargus
(2) Wakkerstroom 12.10 and Wakkerstroom 13.10.

Waterbuck
Kobus ellipsiprymnus ellipsiprymnus
(6) Observed Kruger NP 9-11.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, St Lucia 16.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

Klipspringer
Oreotragus oreotragus
(2) Kruger NP 11.10 and Skitterykloof 25.10.

Grey Rhebok
Pelea capreolus
(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

Steenbok
Raphicerus campestris campestris
(2) Kruger NP 10.10 and Kruger NP 11.10.

Southern Reedbuck
Redunca arundinum

Mountain Reedbuck
Redunca fulvorufa fulvorufa
(1) Wakkerstroom 13.10.

Common Duiker
Sylvicapra grimmia
(4) Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP 11.0, Umkumbi Lodge 16.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

African Buffalo
Syncerus caffer caffer
(6) Kruger NP 9.10, Kruger NP 11.10, Kruger NP 12.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, St Lucia 16.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

Nyala
Tragelaphus angasii
(5) Kruger NP 11.10, Umkumbi Lodge 14.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, Kingfisher Lodge, St Lucia 16.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

Bushbuck
Tragelaphus scriptus
Greater Kudu  
*Tragelaphus strepsiceros*

Greater Kudu  
(7) Observed Kruger NP 9-11.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, St Lucia 16.10, Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

Giraffe, Okapi  
*Giraffidae*

Giraffe  
*Giraffa camelopardalis giraffa*

Giraffe, Okapi  
(6) Observed Kruger NP 9-12.10, Mkuze GR 15.10 and St Lucia 16.10.

Hippopotamus  
*Hippopotamidae*

Hippopotamus  
*Hippopotamus amphibius capensis*

Hippopotamus  
(6) Observed Kruger NP 9-11.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, St Lucia 16.10 and St Lucia 17.10.

Pigs  
*Suidae*

Common Warthog  
*Phacochoerus africanus sundevallii*

Common Warthog  
(8) Observed Kruger NP 9-12.10, Umkhumbi Lodge 14.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, St Lucia 16.10 and Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

Bushpig  
*Potamochoerus larvatus*

Bushpig  
(1) Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10.

Old World Fruit Bats  
*Pteropodidae*

Peters's Epauletted Fruit Bat  
*Epomophorus crypturus*

Peters's Epauletted Fruit Bat  
(1) St Lucia 16.10.

Hyraxes  
*Procaviidae*

Rock Hyrax  
*Procavia capensis*

Rock Hyrax  
(2) Sani Pass 20.10 and Stony Point 23.10.

Rabbits, Hares  
*Leporidae*

Scrub Hare  
*Lepus saxatilis*

Scrub Hare  
(2) Kruger NP 9.10 and Kruger NP 10.10.

Plains Zebra  
*Equidae*

Plains Zebra  
*Equus quagga*

Plains Zebra  
(8) Observed Kruger NP 9-12.10, Mkuze GR 15.10, St Lucia 16.10, Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 17.10 and Underberg 19.10.

White Rhinoceros  
*Rhinocerotidae*

White Rhinoceros  
*Ceratotherium simum*

White Rhinoceros  
(2) Kruger NP 9.10 and Kruger NP 11.10.

Old World monkeys  
*Cercopithecidae*

Vervet  
*Chlorocebus pygerythrus*
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**Chacma Baboon**  
*Papio ursinus ursinus*  

**Southern Lesser Galago**  
*Galago moholi*  
(1) Kruger NP 11.10.

**Thick-tailed Greater Galago**  
*Otolemur crassicaudatus crassicaudatus*  
(1) St Lucia 16.10.

**African Elephant**  
*Loxodonta africana*  
(3) Observed Kruger NP 9-11.10.

**Cape Porcupine**  
*Hystrix africaeaustralis*  
(1) St Lucia 16.10.

**True Mice and Rats, Gerbils, Spiny Mice, Crested Rat**  
*Otomys sloggetti*  
(1) Sani Pass 20.10.

**Smith's Bush Squirrel**  
*Paraxerus cepapi*  
(4) Observed Kruger NP 9-12.10.

**Red Bush Squirrel**  
*Paraxerus palliatus*  
(1) St Lucia 17.10.
Reptiles (15 in total: 15 seen)

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**Crocodiles and relatives Crocodylidae**

Nile Crocodile  
_Crocodylus niloticus cowiei_  
(3) Kruger NP 10.10, Kruger NP 11.10 and St Lucia 17.10.

**Agamas Agamidae**

Southern Rock Agama  
_Agama atra atra_  

**Chameleons Chamaeleonidae**

Cape Dwarf Chameleon  
_Bradypodion pumilum_  
(1) Rooi-Els 23.10.

Flap-neck Chameleon  
_Chamaeleo dilepis_  
(1) Cape Vidal, Isimangaliso WP 16.10.

**Spinytail Lizards Cordylidae**

Cape girdled lizard  
_Cordylus cordylus_  
(1) Stony Point 23.10.

Black Girdled Lizard  
_Cordylus niger_  
(1) Simon's Town 24.10.

**Elapidae Elapidae**

Green Mamba  
_Dendroaspis angusticeps_  
(1) Umkhumbi Lodge 16.10.

**Geckos Gekkonidae**

House Gecko  
_Hemidactylus mabouia_  
(2) Kruger NP - Pretoriuskop 12.10 and Umkhumbi Lodge 15.10.

**Lacertidae**

Namaqua Sand Lizard  
_Pedioplanis namaquensis_  
(1) Karoopoort 25.10.

**Skinks Scincidae**

African Five-lined Skink  
_Trachylepis quinquetaeniata_  
(3) Observed Kruger NP 10-12.10.

Variable Skink  
_Trachylepis varia_  
(1) Umkhumbi Lodge 16.10.

**Monitor Lizards Varanidae**

Nile Monitor  
_Varanus niloticus_
(2) Kruger NP 10.10 and Kruger NP 11.10.

**Vipers Viperidae**

*Causus rhombeatus*

Common Night Adder
(1) Walter Sisulu botanical garden 8.10.

**Afro-American Sideneck Turtles Pelomedusidae**

*Pelomedusa subrufa nigra*

Helmeted Turtle
(2) Kruger NP 11.10 and Mkuze GR 15.10.

**Tortoises Testudinidae**

*Chersina angulata*

Angulated Tortoise
(2) Harold Porter Botanical Garden 23.10 and West Coast NP 24.10.

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