



**SOUTH AFRICA:
9-DAY KWA ZULU NATAL CUSTOM TRIP REPORT**

10 - 18 September 2019

By Jason Boyce



Livingstone's Turaco showed beautifully for us in the iSimangaliso Wetland Park.

Overview

The province of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa holds the most species of all nine provinces due largely to the very varied habitats in the province, the pristine grasslands in the northwest, the coastal habitats, sand forest, and the Drakensberg mountains on the border of Lesotho. On this tour we recorded 272 species (plus an additional 30 species that were heard only), including a few cracking ones such as **African Broadbill**, **African Wood Owl**, **Narina Trogon**, **Neergaard's Sunbird**, **Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon**, and Drakensberg specials like **Drakensberg Rockjumper** and **Bearded Vulture**.

We had a wonderful time in northern Zululand, visiting Tembe Elephant Park, Ndumo Game Reserve, and Mkhuze Game Reserve and spending time photographing the likes of **Gorgeous Bushshrike** as well as picking up a rarity or two at the famous St Lucia Estuary. Eshowe, and more specifically Dlinza Forest, produced some fantastic species, including up-close-and-personal looks at **Purple-crested Turaco** and **Green Twinspot**. The Drakensberg was another highlight; we took a day trip up the Sani Pass and connected with the main targets of the area.

Detailed Report

Day 1, 10th September 2019 – Pickup at Johannesburg, transfer to Tembe Elephant Park

The first day of our tour was delayed; this meant we had a long transfer from the airport to Tembe Elephant Park, where we would stay for a couple of nights. We did manage to pick up a few species en route. A couple of good Highveld species showed rather well; we saw **Greater** and **Lesser Flamingos**, **South African Shelduck**, **Long-tailed Widowbird** (still in winter plumage), **Cape Longclaw**, and a few really awesome sightings of **Marsh Owl**. As one descends into the Zululand region of KwaZulu-Natal vegetation and scenery change remarkably. Fever trees line the highway near Mkhuze Town, and of course a whole new suite of birds awaits. A short rest and lunch stop produced a number of common species such as **Fork-tailed Drongo**, **Southern Black Flycatcher**, the striking **Scarlet-chested Sunbird**, **Brown-hooded Kingfisher**, **White-browed Robin-Chat**, and **Chinspot Batis**.

We headed into Mkhuze Game Reserve, where we spent a few hours – the park was incredibly dry, but we did enjoy our time there. The kuMasinga hide produced the goods; **Burchell's Coucal**, **Crested** and **Black-collared Barbets**, and **Woolly-necked Stork** were all seen within the first few seconds after entering the hide. This is a beautifully situated hide that allows for a 270-degree view over a small pool of water. Many species were coming for a drink; they included **Emerald-spotted Wood Dove**, **Ring-necked Dove**, **Yellow-fronted Canary**, **Golden-breasted Bunting**, **Yellow-throated Bush Sparrow**, and **Blue Waxbill**. After a long day and a good start to our birding we made our way to Royal Thonga Safari Lodge, where we checked in (to the sounds of **African Broadbill**, **Narina Trogon**, and **Pink-throated Twinspot**) and enjoyed dinner and a good night's rest.

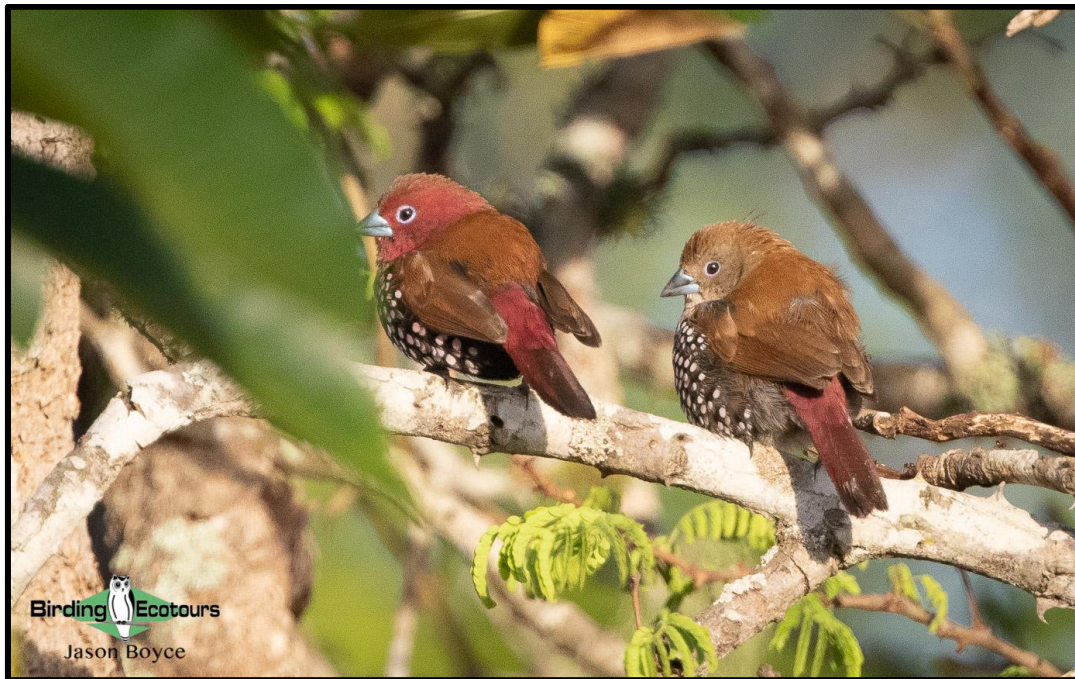
Day 2, 11th September 2019 – Full day in Tembe Elephant Park

A cup of coffee gave us the kick start we needed, and soon we were at the Tembe Elephant Park gate just after 6 a.m. We started things with a few **Emerald Spotted Wood Doves** and a beautiful pair of prized **Pink-throated Twinspots**. Both **Rudd's** and **Yellow-breasted Apalises** were around in decent numbers at a small clearing; here we also picked up the likes of **Black-**

backed Puffback, Brown-crowned Tchagra, Purple-banded Sunbird, Long-billed Crombec, and Crowned Hornbill. A **Purple-crested Turaco** peered at us through the canopy and then flew over our vehicle, showing the incredible scarlet wing feathers. We took a walk in the lodge grounds after brunch; **Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher** was very vocal and showed a couple of times, while a male **Neergaard's Sunbird** also gave some really pleasing views.

Just after midday we went back into the park and took a few different tracks to see what we could find. The area was extremely dry, and the birding as well as finding any game proved rather difficult. A **Black-chested Snake Eagle** cruised overhead and a pair of **African Hoopoes** gave a brief flyby. **Crested Guineafowl** was certainly a highlight today, and we picked up a few different groups throughout the day. The late afternoon session produced a few raptors, a family of birds that has certainly been scarce of late; **Martial Eagle** and **Wahlberg's Eagle** were seen catching thermals above us at one point, while an **African Goshawk** came shooting by the car at high speed. Another pair of **Woolly-necked Storks** was feeding at the edge of a small pool of water to the north of the park.

Grey Waxbill was another bird that proved elusive for the whole day but in the last hour gave a few high-pitched notes to give away its presence. We got great looks as one perched before flying into the thicker vegetation again. **Nyala** was the mammal of the day here; it certainly does very well in this park, and there are small groups around almost every corner.



A pair of Pink-throated Twinspots at Tembe Elephant Park

Day 3, 12th September 2019 – Ndumo Game Reserve

Ndumo Game Reserve produced a change in habitat with some dryer, open sections of woodland as well as really nice riverine woodland dominated by fig and fever trees. The camp area produced a couple of enjoyable sightings, **African Green Pigeon**, flocks of **Red-faced Mousebirds**, **White-eared Barbet**, **Grey Sunbird**, and **Lesser Striped Swallow**. One of the bird hides gave us an amazing view of the floodplain alongside the pan and produced really good numbers of various species. A single **African Openbill** and many **Egyptian** and **Spur-winged**

Geese covered the open grassy plain. Various more common herons and egrets were showing well. As many as fifty **Lesser Flamingos** were around as well as a single **Greater Flamingo**. We also picked up two **Caspian Terns**, **Collared Pratincole**, **Great White** and **Pink-backed Pelicans**, **Yellow-billed Stork**, **Black-winged Stilt**, **Marsh Sandpiper**, **Kittlitz's Plover**, **Little Stint**, and **Water Thick-knee**.

Some of our woodland highlights included **Green Wood Hoopoe**, **Brown-hooded Kingfisher**, **Green-winged Pytilia**, **Golden-tailed** and **Cardinal Woodpeckers**, **Little Bee-eater**, **Red-fronted Tinkerbird**, **White-crested Helmetshrike**, **Rudd's Apalis**, and **Red-billed Firefinch**. **Striated Heron** as well as both **Giant** and **Pied Kingfishers** were really nice to get in our binoculars, while a number of pairs of **Namaqua Doves** provided close-up visuals.

This evening we spent some time trying to get visuals of the resident **African Wood Owl**. We certainly had some visuals of this beautiful owl, but unfortunately the bird was a little skittish and evaded our cameras.



Gorgeous Bushshrike

Day 4, 13th September 2019 – Travel south to St Lucia

After spending a few really enjoyable days in northern Zululand we moved south to the birding hotspot of St Lucia. Some rain hindered our progress over the next days, but we certainly made the most of it and found some really superb species. On the way we stopped at a pan (which was one of the few spots that had water), where we found the likes of **Pink-backed Pelican**, **Hottentot** and **Red-billed Teals**, and **Greater** and **Lesser Flamingos**. A small group of **Grey-rumped Swallows** came floating by, seemingly hanging in the stiff breeze. We then continued south to squeeze in some afternoon birding in St Lucia.

After arriving in town we made our way to the estuary, where we took a walk to the mud-flats to get some good looks at the plethora of waterfowl and shorebirds. It really was quite a sight! **African Pied Wagtail** strolled across the car park, and **Crowned Hornbill** came by and landed in one of the tall trees at the entrance to the boardwalk. We set the scope up and recorded a host

of different birds, with **Great Egret**, **Goliath Heron**, **Yellow-billed Stork**, **Black-winged Stilt**, a few more **Pink-backed Pelicans**, flamingoes, and **Caspian Terns** all standing out well due to their larger size. **Rudd's Apalis** and **Red-capped Robin-Chat** were singing with some gusto behind us as the sun was setting. We decided to call it a day and looked forward to tomorrow.



Estuary birding at St Lucia, Greater Flamingo

Day 5, 14th September 2019 – St Lucia birding

An overcast morning with a hint of rain in the air had the potential of this being quite a slow day birdingwise but we managed to pick up some nice species as well as take a few good images. We started on the well-known Igwala Gwala Trail, where we found **Sombre Greenbul**, **Brown Scrub Robin**, **Red-capped Robin-Chat**, a whole group of **Trumpeter Hornbill**, **Common Square-tailed Drongo**, and **Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher** all rather quickly. We enjoyed getting some visuals of a **Woodward's Batis** calling from a tangle of vines. **Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird** and **Dark-backed Weaver** put in a few good appearances too. **Natal Red Duiker** and **Bushbuck** were often seen on the forest paths in front of us, apparently very used to people. An **African Harrier-Hawk** flew overhead and out of sight behind some large trees.

After an excellent breakfast we spent some time on the roads in the town and thereafter traveled into the iSimangaliso Wetland Park. Within the first couple of hundred meters we found **Yellow-throated Longclaw**, **Brown-hooded Kingfisher**, **Croaking Cisticola**, and **Collared Pratincole**. We then had an amazing experience when three **White Rhinoceros** came walking toward us on the main road, passing our car within a mere two meters. What incredible animals, and an amazing experience to see them close-up! Farther along we encountered another **Woolly-necked Stork**, a few **Red-breasted Swallows**, and a party of **White-eared Barbets** that were hanging around at one of the hides. We also had a superb sighting of **Livingstone's Turaco** – a pair of these beautiful birds were hopping around in an open-canopy tree and spent about five minutes preening before moving off again.

Once back in St Lucia town we headed to the estuary for a sunset walk. Here we noticed an immature **African Goshawk** that was being mobbed by a couple of **Cape White-eye**. A really large group of both **Greater** and **Lesser Flamingos** gave some fantastically striking flybys, while a separate flock of over fifty **Pied Avocets** were also quite flashy!

Day 6, 15th September 2019 – St Lucia to Eshowe

We took another early morning walk to the beach, where we once again enjoyed scanning the estuary, mud-flats, and ocean. The time of year was perfect to get some views of **Humpback Whales** that had recently moved back into the waters off of KwaZulu-Natal. We could see a few tail-slaps and breaches, which even at a distance were really impressive.

Along the edge of the estuary we picked up **Rufous-winged Cisticola** and **Brimstone Canary**. Three **African Oystercatchers** were present, and a few **Grey-headed Gulls** gave flybys. We also picked up one or two **Cape Gannets** cruising a couple of hundred meters from the shore. Raptors in the area included **African Marsh Harrier**, **African Fish Eagle** and **Long-crested Eagle**. The tern roost was interesting and produced probably in the region of sixty **Greater Crested Terns** and a single, vagrant **Gull-billed Tern**. Shorebirds were out in good numbers; **Black-winged Stilt**, **Pied Avocet**, **Grey**, **Common Ringed**, **White-fronted**, **Kittlitz's**, and **Three-banded Plovers**, **Whimbrel**, **Ruddy Turnstone**, **Ruff**, **Curlew**, **Common**, **Marsh**, and **Wood Sandpipers**, **Common Greenshank**, **Sanderling**, and **Little Stint** were all also in attendance. Surprisingly there were up to seven **Chestnut-banded Plovers** hanging around too, certainly a good bird for KwaZulu-Natal. We left the town after a good breakfast and spent some time on the estuary bridge, photographing **Eastern Golden** and **Southern Brown-throated Weavers** as well as **Little** and **White-rumped Swifts**. A single **Southern Banded Snake Eagle** was also heard and seen very distantly from the bridge. The drive was fairly quiet birdwise, but we did pick up a few **Jackal Buzzards** en route. **Woolly-necked Stork** showed nicely in Mtunzini, as did **Palm-nut Vulture**, albeit a long way off. A short walk in the Dlinza Forest that afternoon was rather quiet too, but it did produce sightings of **Red-capped Robin Chat**, **Lemon Dove**, **Olive Sunbird**, and **Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher**. A good night's rest was in order.



Woolly-necked Stork along the Umlalazi River

Day 7, 16th September 2019 – Eshowe Birding then transfer to Himeville

As we had hoped, we had a fantastic morning in Dlinza Forest. We started with a slow walk on the boardwalk and up to the viewing deck overlooking the top of the forest. It was certainly a morning for pigeons and doves; **African Green Pigeon** as well as **African Olive Pigeon** and **Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon** were all in attendance, giving good flybys as well as occasionally perching nearby! **Black-bellied Starling**, **Sombre Greenbul**, **Grey** and **Black Cuckooshrikes**, **Purple-crested Turaco**, and small groups of **White-eared Barbets** were all singing away and also giving us opportunity to study them in the scope and binoculars. **Yellow-bellied Greenbul** and a pair of **Purple-crested Turacos** came up right next to the viewing platform, and we managed a few great pictures. A flock of **Red-backed Mannikins** flew by, while **Bar-throated Apalis** was hopping around behind us. **Chorister Robin-Chat** did eventually also show well as we strolled back on the boardwalk. We spent a good amount of time checking for the prized **Spotted Ground Thrush** but unfortunately only managed to get a few snippets of its call echoing from below us.

After spending time in the forest we went to a small bird hide and waited patiently to see what would come. It was better than expected! A small group of **Green Twinspots** came by a couple of times, oblivious to our presence. **Tambourine** and **Lemon Doves** both showed well, and a striking **Chorister Robin-Chat** also came to take a quick drink of water. We started our long drive west towards the Drakensberg, where we would spend the next two nights.



Lemon Dove showing its beautiful colors under a ray of sunlight



*The awesome male **Green Twinspot** showed well at the hide.*

Day 8, 17th September 2019 – Sani Pass day trip into Lesotho

What a day! This was a day of incredible sights, beautiful landscapes, and some truly special birds. It was a brisk morning in Himeville, where we welcomed the warmth of the sunrise. A few goodies to kick off the morning included a **Black Saw-wing** flyby, **Long-crested Eagle**, **Buff-streaked Chat**, **Yellow Bishop**, and a bold **Wailing Cisticola**. We slowly started to gain altitude on our way up the Sani Pass as we got closer to the South African border control. We picked up

Cape Bunting and **Malachite Sunbird** and a little farther up we encountered **Cape Rock Thrush**. Once across the South African border we spotted a very distant **Bearded Vulture** flying up really high alongside some of the cliffs to the south of where we were. The switchback area produced many **Drakensberg Siskins**, **Sickle-winged Chat**, and an awesome male **Sentinel Rock Thrush**. We took a long time to find **Drakensberg Rockjumper** but finally ended up finding a female bird on the way.

Lesotho produced nice sightings of **Southern Bald Ibis**, **Grey Tit**, **Layard's Warbler**, and **Ground Woodpecker**. We also managed to find one of the areas where **Bearded Vultures** have been known to breed. A single bird was cruising around effortlessly, occasionally perching on the cliff sides. The way back down gave us the one species we were missing, the male **Drakensberg Rockjumper**. We enjoyed watching a very confident bird move around feeding and occasionally perching for nice photographs. **Barratt's Warbler** was our last new species for the day; it took some time to get visuals of this skulker, but once it came out we really had some nice views.



Probably one of the birds of the trip –Drakensberg Rockjumper

Day 9, 18th September 2019 – Travel back to Johannesburg

Our final morning in Natal was relaxing. We took a walk around the hotel grounds happy to see whatever would come our way. **Olive Woodpecker** came by calling loudly, we had some views of it moving up the trunk of a large tree. An immature **Jackal Buzzard** was also on the lookout, while a few **African Black Ducks** gave a really nice flyby. Some of the more common species were also nice to watch, namely **Southern Fiscal**, **Cape Weaver**, **Bokmakierie**, **Pied Starling**, **Malachite Kingfisher**, and the smart-looking **Cape Sparrow**. **Greater Striped Swallows** were also in attendance, giving their soft contact “krrru”-type call. Our journey back to Johannesburg was fairly long but overall really good to reflect on a successful trip.

Bird List - Following IOC 9.2

Birds 'heard only' are marked with (H) after the common name, all other species were seen.

The following notation after species names is used to show conservation status following BirdLife International: EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, NT = Near Threatened. South African endemics are bolded.

Common name	Scientific name
Guineafowl (Numididae)	
Crested Guineafowl	<i>Guttera pucherani</i>
Pheasants & Allies (Phasianidae)	
Orange River Francolin (H)	<i>Scleroptila gutturalis</i>
Crested Francolin	<i>Dendroperdix sephaena</i>
Ducks, Geese, Swans (Anatidae)	
White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>
White-backed Duck	<i>Thalassornis leuconotus</i>
Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>
Knob-billed Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>
South African Shelduck	<i>Tadorna cana</i>
African Pygmy Goose	<i>Nettapus auritus</i>
Hottentot Teal	<i>Spatula hottentota</i>
Cape Shoveler	<i>Spatula smithii</i>
African Black Duck	<i>Anas sparsa</i>
Yellow-billed Duck	<i>Anas undulata</i>
Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>
Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>
Southern Pochard	<i>Netta erythrophthalma</i>
Nightjars (Caprimulgidae)	
Fiery-necked Nightjar (H)	<i>Caprimulgus pectoralis</i>
Swifts (Apodidae)	
African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>

Common name	Scientific name
White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>
Turacos (Musophagidae)	
Livingstone's Turaco	<i>Tauraco livingstonii</i>
Purple-crested Turaco	<i>Tauraco porphyreolophus</i>
Cuckoos (Cuculidae)	
Burchell's Coucal	<i>Centropus burchellii</i>
Green Malkoha	<i>Ceuthmochares australis</i>
Klaas's Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>
Red-chested Cuckoo (H)	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>
Pigeons, Doves (Columbidae)	
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>
Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>
African Olive Pigeon	<i>Columba arquatrix</i>
Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon	<i>Columba delegorguei</i>
Lemon Dove	<i>Columba larvata</i>
Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>
Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>
Tambourine Dove	<i>Turtur tympanistria</i>
Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>
African Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calvus</i>
Rails, Crakes & Coots (Rallidae)	
Black Crake	<i>Amaurornis flavirostra</i>
African Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio madagascariensis</i>
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
Lesser Moorhen	<i>Paragallinula angulata</i>
Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>
Cranes (Gruidae)	
Grey Crowned Crane – EN (H)	<i>Balearica regulorum</i>
Grebes (Podicipedidae)	

Common name	Scientific name
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
Flamingos (Phoenicopteridae)	
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>
Lesser Flamingo - NT	<i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>
Stone-curlews, Thick-knees (Burhinidae)	
Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>
Spotted Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>
Oystercatchers (Haematopodidae)	
African Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus moquini</i>
Stilts, Avocets (Recurvirostridae)	
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
Plovers (Charadriidae)	
Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>
Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>
African Wattled Lapwing (H)	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>
Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>
Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>
White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>
Chestnut-banded Plover - NT	<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>
Jacanas (Jacanidae)	
African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>
Sandpipers, Snipes (Scolopacidae)	
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
Ruff	<i>Calidris pugnax</i>
Curlew Sandpiper - NT	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
Coursers, Pratincoles (Glareolidae)	
Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>
Gulls, Terns, Skimmers (Laridae)	
Grey-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>
Greater Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>
Storks (Ciconiidae)	
Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>
African Openbill	<i>Anastomus lamelligerus</i>
Woolly-necked Stork - VU	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>
Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumenifer</i>
Gannets, Boobies (Sulidae)	
Cape Gannet - EN	<i>Morus capensis</i>
Cormorants, Shags (Phalacrocoracidae)	
Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>
White-breasted Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>
Anhingas, Darters (Anhingidae)	
African Darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>
Ibises, Spoonbills (Threskiornithidae)	
African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>
Southern Bald Ibis - VU	<i>Geronticus calvus</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>
Herons, Bitterns (Ardeidae)	
Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>
Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
Hamerkop (Scopidae)	
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>
Pelicans (Pelecanidae)	
Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>
Pink-backed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i>
Kites, Hawks, Eagles (Accipitridae)	
African Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>
Palm-nut Vulture	<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>
Bearded Vulture - NT	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>
Black-chested Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus pectoralis</i>
Southern Banded Snake Eagle - NT	<i>Circaetus fasciolatus</i>
Martial Eagle - VU	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>
Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>
Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus wahlbergi</i>
African Goshawk	<i>Accipiter tachiro</i>
Little Sparrowhawk (H)	<i>Accipiter minumllus</i>
Black Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter melanoleucus</i>
African Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>
Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>

Common name	Scientific name
African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>
Jackal Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufofuscus</i>
Owls (Strigidae)	
Spotted Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>
African Wood Owl	<i>Strix woodfordii</i>
Marsh Owl	<i>Asio capensis</i>
Mousebirds (Coliidae)	
Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>
Red-faced Mousebird	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>
Trogons (Trogonidae)	
Narina Trogon	<i>Apaloderma narina</i>
Hoopoes (Upupidae)	
African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>
Wood Hoopoes (Phoeniculidae)	
Green Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>
Common Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>
Hornbills (Bucerotidae)	
Crowned Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros alboterminatus</i>
Trumpeter Hornbill	<i>Bycanistes bucinator</i>
Rollers (Coraciidae)	
Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>
Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)	
Brown-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon albiventris</i>
Striped Kingfisher (H)	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>
Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>
Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Bee-eaters (Meropidae)	
Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>
African Barbets (Lybiidae)	
White-eared Barbet	<i>Stactolaema leucotis</i>
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus bilineatus</i>
Red-fronted Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus pusillus</i>
Crested Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus vaillantii</i>
Acacia Pied Barbet	<i>Tricholaema leucomelas</i>
Black-collared Barbet	<i>Lybius torquatus</i>
Honeyguides (Indicatoridae)	
Brown-backed Honeybird (H)	<i>Prodotiscus regulus</i>
Scaly-throated Honeyguide	<i>Indicator variegatus</i>
Greater Honeyguide (H)	<i>Indicator indicator</i>
Woodpeckers (Picidae)	
Red-throated Wryneck	<i>Jynx ruficollis</i>
Golden-tailed Woodpecker (H)	<i>Campethera abingoni</i>
Ground Woodpecker - NT	<i>Geocolaptes olivaceus</i>
Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>
Olive Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos griseocephalus</i>
African and Green Broadbills (Calyptomenidae)	
African Broadbill	<i>Smithornis capensis</i>
Wattle-eyes, Batises (Platysteiridae)	
Cape Batis	<i>Batis capensis</i>
Woodward's Batis	<i>Batis fratrum</i>
Chinspot Batis	<i>Batis molitor</i>
Bushshrikes (Malaconotidae)	
Grey-headed Bushshrike (H)	<i>Malaconotus blanchoti</i>
Olive Bushshrike (H)	<i>Chlorophoneus olivaceus</i>
Orange-breasted Bushshrike	<i>Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus</i>
Gorgeous Bushshrike (H)	<i>Telophorus viridis</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Bokmakierie	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>
Brown-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>
Black-crowned Tchagra (H)	<i>Tchagra senegalus</i>
Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubla</i>
Southern Boubou	<i>Laniarius ferrugineus</i>
Brubru (H)	<i>Nilaus afer</i>
Vangas & Allies (Vangidae)	
White-crested Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>
Retz's Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops retzii</i>
Cuckooshrikes (Campephagidae)	
Black Cuckooshrike	<i>Campephaga flava</i>
Grey Cuckooshrike	<i>Ceblepyris caesius</i>
Shrikes (Laniidae)	
Southern Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>
Figbirds, Orioles, Turnagra (Oriolidae)	
Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus larvatus</i>
Drongos (Dicruridae)	
Common Square-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus ludwigii</i>
Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>
Monarchs (Monarchidae)	
Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher	<i>Trochocercus cyanomelas</i>
African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>
Crows, Jays (Corvidae)	
Cape Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>
White-necked Raven	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>
Rockjumpers (Chaetopidae)	
Drakensberg Rockjumper - NT	<i>Chaetops aurantius</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Tits, Chickadees (Paridae)	
Southern Black Tit	<i>Melaniparus niger</i>
Grey Tit	<i>Melaniparus afer</i>
Penduline Tits (Remizidae)	
Grey Penduline Tit	<i>Anthoscopus caroli</i>
Nicators (Nicatoridae)	
Eastern Nicator	<i>Nicator gularis</i>
Larks (Alaudidae)	
Eastern Long-billed Lark (H)	<i>Certhilauda semitorquata</i>
Rufous-naped Lark	<i>Mirafra africana</i>
Bulbuls (Pycnonotidae)	
Dark-capped Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus tricolor</i>
Sombre Greenbul	<i>Andropadus importunus</i>
Yellow-bellied Greenbul	<i>Chlorocichla flaviventris</i>
Terrestrial Brownbul	<i>Phyllastrephus terrestris</i>
Swallows, Martins (Hirundinidae)	
Black Saw-wing	<i>Psalidoprocne pristoptera</i>
Grey-rumped Swallow	<i>Pseudhirundo griseopyga</i>
Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>
White-throated Swallow	<i>Hirundo albigularis</i>
Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>
Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>
Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>
Greater Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis cucullata</i>
Red-breasted Swallow	<i>Cecropis semirufa</i>
South African Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon spilodera</i>
Crombecs, African Warblers (Macrosphenidae)	
Cape Grassbird (H)	<i>Sphenoeacus afer</i>
Long-billed Crombec	<i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Reed Warblers & Allies (Acrocephalidae)	
Lesser Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus gracilirostris</i>
African Yellow Warbler	<i>Iduna natalensis</i>
Grassbirds & Allies (Locustellidae)	
Barratt's Warbler	<i>Bradypterus barratti</i>
Little Rush Warbler (H)	<i>Bradypterus baboecala</i>
Cisticolas & Allies (Cisticolidae)	
Red-faced Cisticola	<i>Cisticola erythropus</i>
Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>
Wailing Cisticola	<i>Cisticola lais</i>
Rufous-winged Cisticola	<i>Cisticola galactotes</i>
Levaillant's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola tinniens</i>
Croaking Cisticola	<i>Cisticola natalensis</i>
Neddicky	<i>Cisticola fulvicapilla</i>
Wing-snapping Cisticola (H)	<i>Cisticola ayresii</i>
Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>
Drakensberg Prinia	<i>Prinia hypoxantha</i>
Bar-throated Apalis	<i>Apalis thoracica</i>
Rudd's Apalis	<i>Apalis ruddi</i>
Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flavida</i>
Green-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brachyura</i>
Burnt-necked Eremomela (H)	<i>Eremomela usticollis</i>
Laughingthrushes & Allies (Leiothrichidae)	
Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>
Sylviid Babblers (Sylviidae)	
Layard's Warbler	<i>Sylvia layardi</i>
White-eyes (Zosteropidae)	
Cape White-eye	<i>Zosterops virens</i>
Northern Yellow White-eye	<i>Zosterops senegalensis</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Sugarbirds (Promeropidae)	
Gurney's Sugarbird - NT	<i>Promerops gurneyi</i>
Starlings, Rhabdornis (Sturnidae)	
Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Black-bellied Starling	<i>Notopholia corusca</i>
Cape Starling	<i>Lamprotornis nitens</i>
Pied Starling	<i>Lamprotornis bicolor</i>
Red-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>
Oxpeckers (Buphagidae)	
Red-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>
Thrushes (Turdidae)	
Spotted Ground Thrush – EN (H)	<i>Geokichla guttata</i>
Groundscraper Thrush	<i>Turdus litsitsirupa</i>
Kurrichane Thrush	<i>Turdus libonyana</i>
Olive Thrush	<i>Turdus olivaceus</i>
Chats, Old World Flycatchers (Muscicapidae)	
Bearded Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas quadrivirgata</i>
White-browed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas leucophrys</i>
Brown Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas signata</i>
Grey Tit-Flycatcher (H)	<i>Myioparus plumbeus</i>
Southern Black Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis pammelaina</i>
Pale Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis pallidus</i>
Ashy Flycatcher (H)	<i>Muscicapa caerulescens</i>
African Dusky Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa adusta</i>
Cape Robin-Chat (H)	<i>Cossypha caffra</i>
White-browed Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha heuglini</i>
Red-capped Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha natalensis</i>
Chorister Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha dichroa</i>
Cape Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola rupestris</i>
Sentinel Rock Thrush - NT	<i>Monticola explorator</i>
African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Buff-streaked Chat	<i>Campicoloides bifasciatus</i>
Sickle-winged Chat	<i>Emarginata sinuata</i>
Ant-eating Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla formicivora</i>
Sunbirds (Nectariniidae)	
Collared Sunbird	<i>Hedydipna collaris</i>
Olive Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra olivacea</i>
Grey Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra veroxii</i>
Amethyst Sunbird (H)	<i>Chalcomitra amethystina</i>
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>
Malachite Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia famosa</i>
Southern Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris chalybeus</i>
Neergaard's Sunbird - NT	<i>Cinnyris neergaardi</i>
Greater Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris afer</i>
Marico Sunbird (H)	<i>Cinnyris mariquensis</i>
Purple-banded Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris bifasciatus</i>
White-bellied Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris talatala</i>
Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches (Passeridae)	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Cape Sparrow	<i>Passer melanurus</i>
Yellow-throated Bush Sparrow	<i>Gymnoris superciliaris</i>
Weavers, Widowbirds (Ploceidae)	
Thick-billed Weaver	<i>Amblyospiza albifrons</i>
Spectacled Weaver (H)	<i>Ploceus ocularis</i>
Cape Weaver	<i>Ploceus capensis</i>
Eastern Golden Weaver	<i>Ploceus subaureus</i>
Southern Brown-throated Weaver	<i>Ploceus xanthopterus</i>
Lesser Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus intermedius</i>
Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>
Village Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>
Dark-backed Weaver	<i>Ploceus bicolor</i>
Red-headed Weaver	<i>Anaplectes rubriceps</i>
Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>
Yellow Bishop	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Fan-tailed Widowbird	<i>Euplectes axillaris</i>
Long-tailed Widowbird	<i>Euplectes progne</i>
Waxbills, Munias & Allies (Estrildidae)	
Green-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia melba</i>
Green Twinspot	<i>Mandingoa nitidula</i>
Pink-throated Twinspot	<i>Hypargos margaritatus</i>
Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>
African Firefinch (H)	<i>Lagonosticta rubricata</i>
Blue Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>
Sweet Waxbill	<i>Coccygia melanotis</i>
Grey Waxbill	<i>Estrilda perreini</i>
Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>
Bronze Mannikin	<i>Lonchura cucullata</i>
Red-backed Mannikin	<i>Lonchura nigriceps</i>
Indigobirds, Whydahs (Viduidae)	
Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>
Wagtails, Pipits (Motacillidae)	
Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>
African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>
Cape Longclaw	<i>Macronyx capensis</i>
Yellow-throated Longclaw	<i>Macronyx croceus</i>
African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>
African Rock Pipit - NT (H)	<i>Anthus crenatus</i>
Long-billed Pipit	<i>Anthus similis</i>
Finches, Euphonias (Fringillidae)	
Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Crithagra mozambica</i>
Drakensberg Siskin	<i>Crithagra symonsi</i>
Brimstone Canary	<i>Crithagra sulphurata</i>
Streaky-headed Seedeater (H)	<i>Crithagra gularis</i>
Cape Canary	<i>Serinus canicollis</i>
Buntings (Emberizidae)	

Common name	Scientific name
Cape Bunting	<i>Emberiza capensis</i>
Golden-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>

Total seen	272
Total heard only	30
Total recorded	302

Mammal List

Common name	Scientific name
Procaviidae	
Rock Hyrax	<i>Procavia capensis</i>
Galagidae	
Thick-tailed Greater Galago	<i>Otolemur crassicaudatus</i>
Cercopithecidae	
Vervet Monkey	<i>Chlorocebus pygerythrus</i>
Chacma Baboon	<i>Papio ursinus</i>
Sciuridae	
Red Bush Squirrel	<i>Paraxerus palliatus</i>
Muridae	
Sloggett's Vlei Rat	<i>Otomys sloggetti</i>
Felidae	
Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>
Herpestidae	
Common Slender Mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguineus</i>
Canidae	
Black-backed Jackal	<i>Canis mesomelas</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Equidae	
Plains Zebra	<i>Equus quagga</i>
Rhinocerotidae	
White Rhinoceros	<i>Ceratotherium simum</i>
Suidae	
Common Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>
Hippopotamidae	
Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>
Giraffidae	
Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>
Bovidae	
Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>
Natal Red Duiker	<i>Cephalophus natalensis</i>
Common Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>
Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>
Grey Rhebok	<i>Pelea capreolus</i>
Blue Duiker	<i>Philantomba monticola</i>
Common Duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>
Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>
Greater Kudu	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>
Nyala	<i>Tragelaphus angasii</i>
Balaenopteridae	
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>
Total seen	25