



NAMIBIA AND OKAVANGO DELTA, BOTSWANA, CUSTOM PHOTOGRAPHIC TOUR

TRIP REPORT MARCH 2015

By Justin Nicolau



One of Namibia's two avian endemic species, **Dune Lark** - *Calendulauda erythrochlamys*

ITINERARY

Date	Location	Overnight
09 March 2015	Windhoek to Sossusvlei (Arrive)	Sossusvlei Lodge
10 March 2015	Walvis Bay	Lagoon Lodge
11 March 2015	Walvis Bay	Lagoon Lodge
12 March 2015	Erongo	Erongo Wilderness Lodge
13 March 2015	Erongo	Erongo Wilderness Lodge
14 March 2015	Etosha National Park	Okaukuejo Camp
15 March 2015	Etosha National Park	Okaukuejo Camp
16 March 2015	Etosha National Park	Halali Camp
17 March 2015	Etosha National Park	Halali Camp
18 March 2015	Etosha National Park	Mushara Lodge
19 March 2015	Rundu	Tambuti Lodge
20 March 2015	Shakawe	Xaro Lodge
21 March 2015	Shakawe	Xaro Lodge
22 March 2015	Maun (Depart)	Johannesburg

OVERVIEW

From the outset, photography was our goal, and so it was expected that the total number of species seen would be lower than on previous trips to these destinations. We still had a very successful birding tour, recording 309 species of birds (including seven that were heard only), 10 species of reptiles, and over 40 species of mammals, including all of the sought after “Big 5”, which consisted of countless black rhinoceros, African elephant, and African buffalo, half a dozen lion sightings, and a male leopard on a kill, which was outshone by a mother cheetah and her cubs attempting to hunt at a waterhole.

Most of the country had recently received good rainfall, and what is normally a barren desert was bustling with life. The weather held out throughout the trip, and we only received a few drops of light rain on our final afternoon. Most of the migrant bird species appeared to have already set out on their return journeys north, unfortunately, potentially brought about by the recent rains. We did, however, manage to locate all of our target species, including an obliging pair of one of Namibia’s two endemic species, the **Dune Lark**, as well as the second endemic species, **Damara Red-billed Hornbill**.

Traveling in the region of 5500 km (including the vehicle’s round trip from Johannesburg), we managed to incorporate a vast array of habitats, and with that came an abundance of local fauna and flora, from barren desert and coastal shores right through to swampland and riparian woodland. The border crossings were quiet and took little time to complete, and although we did endure a few minor car mishaps, these were all sorted out without too much hassle, hardly affecting our daily itineraries, but they certainly created room for a lot of table talk!

Day 1, 9 March 2015

Our first day commenced with a mid-morning collection from the airport situated outside of Namibia’s capital. With meets and greets out of the way, we headed directly to a local dam and reserve within the capital city of Windhoek. Birds surrounded us from the moment we left the vehicle, with **White-browed Sparrow-Weaver**, **Blue Waxbill**, **White-backed Mousebird**, **Little Swift**, **Rock Martin**, **Laughing Dove**, **Cape Wagtail**, and **Chestnut-vented Warbler** showing well. A covey of **Orange River Francolins** entertained us along the pathway for some time, before we pushed on towards an active bird flock consisting of **Common Waxbill**, **Pin-tailed Whydah**, **Black-throated Canary**, **Yellow-bellied Eremomela**, **Southern Red Bishop**, **Black-chested Prinia**, **Familiar Chat**, **Pririt Batis**, **Cape Penduline Tit**, and a single **Spotted Flycatcher**. Scouring over the dam from its wall we located **Grey Heron**, **White-breasted Cormorant**, **Common Moorhen**, **Egyptian**

Goose, European Bee-eater, Greater Striped Swallow, African Palm Swift, Common Sandpiper, African Fish Eagle, Reed Cormorant, White-throated Swallow, and Little Egret.



Dusky Sunbird - *Cinnyris fuscus*

A small patch of scrubby thornveld close by yielded **Acacia Pied Barbet, Crimson-breasted Shrike, Red-billed Spurfowl, Black-winged Kite, Shaft-tailed Whydah, Village Indigobird, Icterine Warbler, Red-billed Firefinch, Long-billed Crombec, and Black-faced Waxbill**, as well as a pair of **Rockrunner** and **Short-toed Rock Thrush** along one of the rocky ridges running above the dam. With a good initial haul and both rock hyrax and chacma baboon on the mammal list, we pushed on towards the west coast to the splendid sand dunes of Sossusvlei. Along the way we encountered a hatchling leopard tortoise, no larger than a matchbox. Arriving in Sesriem, the tiny town in which we would be spending our first night, we enjoyed springbok, South African ground squirrel, and gemsbok, while birds included **Pale-winged Starling, Sociable Weaver, Ring-necked Dove, Cape and Pied Crows, Dusky Sunbird, Tractrac Chat**, and a single **Spotted Eagle-Owl** roosting in a large thorn tree. A lot of ground was covered on the first day, but the birding was still very rewarding, as was the enormous buffet for dinner.



South African Ground Squirrel - *Xerus inauris*

Day 2, 10 March 2015

The morning was devoted to landscape photography, and there is no better place to do it than Deadvlei, a dried-up pan full of dead trees, with its white soils and surrounding red sand dunes, which contrast so well with the blue skies Namibia is justly famous for. One could spend hours in here, and we did. The roughly 60 kilometers to the dune system was traveled without much stopping so that we did not lose the best of the morning light, considering that we still had a bit of a hike ahead of us in the soft sand to reach the pan itself. It was weird to see how such a barren landscape could keep one enchanted for such a long time, but eventually, with the sun high above us and shadows of the trees vanishing, we had to pull ourselves away and move on north to Walvis Bay.



Hiking the Namibian dunes towards Deadvlei



Deadvlei

Arriving at Walvis Bay, a small coastal town with a variety of habitats to work through, it was unanimous that we would head directly for the salt works. Here rafts of **Black-necked Grebes** were on show, while **White-breasted Cormorants** and a lonely **Cape Gannet** flew overhead. **Grey Heron**, **Western Cattle Egret**, and both **Greater** and **Lesser Flamingos** were abundant, with **Cape Teal**, **Common Ringed Plover**, **White-fronted Plover**, **Grey Plover**, **Ruddy Turnstone**, **Common Greenshank**, **Curlew Sandpiper**, **Sanderling**, and **Little Stint** making up the bulk of the mixed flocks feeding along the salt-encrusted shorelines.

In the nearby lagoon exposed sandbanks sheltered a flock of over one hundred **Bar-tailed Godwits** most likely preparing for their flight back to their summer breeding grounds. A few **Whimbrels**, **Pied Avocets**, and **Black-winged Stilts** were squeezed among them. **Kelp Gulls** and **Hartlaub's Gulls** scavenged along the edge of the bank, whilst **Caspian** and **Greater Crested Terns** worked the nearby waves. Common bottlenose dolphins passed through the bay as well as a lonely black-backed jackal along the beachfront, presumably picking up bits and pieces of the flamingos that had washed up on shore. A flock of roughly two dozen **Red-necked Phalaropes**, a rarity in southern Africa, was a highlight of the day, as they fed in their circular fashion in the shallows of the salt ponds.

Day 3, 11 March 2015

Heavy mist this morning allowed us to enjoy a slightly longer breakfast than usual while we waited for it to lift. With the first gap in sight, we headed back to the lagoon to photograph the thousands of **Greater** and **Lesser Flamingos** that were on offer. **Kelp Gull**, **Great White Pelican**, **Grey Heron**, **Chestnut-banded Plover**, **Black-winged Stilt**, **Pied Avocet**, and **Grey Plover** were abundant, while we were treated to **Black-necked Grebe**, **Common Greenshank**, **Caspian Tern**, **Hartlaub's Gull**, **Curlew Sandpiper**, and a pair of **Three-banded Plovers**. Having met our targets for the morning we returned to town with the addition of **Barn Swallow**, **Sanderling**, **White-fronted Plover**, **Black Tern**, **Common Tern**, **Common Ringed Plover**, **Ruff**, and yet another small flock of **Red-necked Phalaropes**. Bird of the morning, however went to a partially breeding-plumaged **Pacific Golden Plover**, a

major rarity to southern African soil. After spending a few minutes with some black-backed jackals and distant Afro-Australian fur seals, we headed right for the nearby dune systems.



Hartlaub's Gull - *Chroicocephalus hartlaubii*



Left to right: **Lesser Flamingo** - *Phoeniconaias minor* and **Greater Flamingo** - *Phoenicopterus roseus*



Curlew Sandpiper - *Calidris ferruginea*

Luck was on our side, and within the first quarter of an hour we had both our targets in the bag, a splendid pair of snow-white **Tractrac Chats**, and one of Namibia's two endemics in the form of a displaying **Dune Lark**, which we managed prolonged views of as it spun overhead and from the few exposed perches spread across the sand dunes.



Tractrac Chat - *Emarginata tractrac*

A quick visit to one of the nearby rocky beaches produced **Greater Crested Tern, Sandwich Tern, Common Tern, Whimbrel, Ruddy Turnstone, Grey Plover, African Oystercatcher, Cape Cormorant**, and a small number of breeding-plumaged **Red Knot**. With time on our hands we made a detour through Swakopmund, adding **Cape and House Sparrows, Damara Tern, Red-capped Lark**, and the very well camouflaged **Gray's Lark**, which is restricted to the gravel plains of Namibia and Angola.



Grey Plover - *Pluvialis squatarola*



Caspian Tern - *Hydroprogne caspia*

Day 4, 12 March 2015

Today we moved inland, leaving the misty oceans behind us. Scouring the arid landscapes early in the morning is always rewarding, and today was not different. **Chat Flycatcher** and the western race of **Southern Fiscal** were easily located, while **Karoo Long-billed Lark** took longer than expected, but we were treated to full-frame views by a pair feeding next to the car, undeterred by our presence, moments before the guttural territorial calls of **Rüppell's Korhaan** broke the desert silence. We were onto a trio of them in no time, a real highlight of the morning watching these large birds going about their morning routines.



Rüppell's Korhaan - *Eupodotis rueppellii*

We left for the Spitzkoppe not long thereafter, the most unique granite outcrop Namibia has on offer. Along the way we found **Spike-heeled** and **Stark's Larks** as well as large numbers of **Capped Wheatears** in the sparser grasslands. Arriving at the entrance gates to the reserve itself we were mobbed by **Pale-winged Starlings**, while a leaking tap had drawn the attention of **Violet-backed Starlings**, **Cape Buntings**, **Rosy-faced Lovebirds**, **White-browed Sparrow-Weavers**, and a single **Black-chested Prinia**. Heading for the rocky slopes, we located a pair of dainty **Pririt Batis**, **Mountain Wheatear**, **Common Scimitarbill**, **Dusky Sunbird**, and **Monteiro's Hornbill**. Scanning the skies yielded flocks of **Alpine Swift** and an **Augur Buzzard**, and by mid morning we had had enough of the heat and called for an early lunch, making our way to the Erongo Mountains directly afterwards.

With the luxury lodge situated deep within more granite outcrops, one is surrounded by pristine habitat for a number of special species. Having unpacked the car and our welcoming refreshments out of the way, we headed along a short circular path around the facilities, which yielded countless **Rosy-faced Lovebirds**, **African Red-eyed Bulbul**, **Pale-winged Starling**, **Acacia Pied Barbet**, **Laughing Dove**, **Dusky Sunbird**, and the minute **Pearl-spotted Owlet**. **Black-throated Canaries** and **Southern Masked Weavers** were active around the restaurant, while a pair of **Great Sparrows** and a handful of **Speckled Pigeons** fed off the remaining seeds scattered around the famous bird feeder adjacent to the restaurant. A late evening walk into the rocky ridges produced a pair of **Rock Kestrels**, a soaring **Verreaux's Eagle**, **Green-winged Pytilia**, **Red-billed Spurfowl**, **Monteiro's Hornbill**,

Carp's Tit, and just before sunset a pair of **Freckled Nightjar** hawking insects and calling from the reception roof. The highlight of the day was awarded to a single Damara dik-dik seen on the afternoon walk, one of the most unique-looking of the region's antelope species.



Rosy-faced Lovebird - *Agapornis roseicollis*

Day 5, 13 March 2015

This morning we devoted to some photography around the now replenished feeders in front of the restaurant during the course of breakfast. The earliest arrivals were a pair of dassie rats, a unique species of rodent found in these arid rocky areas. Not long thereafter the masses arrived, and the trees were covered with over a hundred colorful and very noisy **Rosy-faced Lovebirds**. **Red-billed Spurfowl** bullied them off the seed, while **Laughing** and **Ring-necked Doves** patiently waited their turn. **Acacia Pied Barbet**, **Golden-breasted** and **Cape Buntings**, **African Red-eyed Bulbul**, **Mountain Wheatear**, **Grey-backed Camaroptera**, **Dusky Sunbird**, **White-browed Sparrow-Weaver**, and **Great** and **Southern Grey-headed Sparrows**, as well as **Southern Masked Weaver** and **Green-winged Pytilia** all put in an appearance by the time our food had been served. Stomachs full, a brief walk around the pool area yielded **Grey Go-away-bird**, **Namaqua Dove**, **African Palm Swift**, **Red-faced Mousebird**, **Fork-tailed Drongo**, and the sought-after **Rockrunner**, which gave us great views.

Opting for a longer walk while taking advantage of the cloudy and cooler weather, we ventured right in among the granite formations, where we found **Verreaux's Eagle**, **Helmeted Guineafowl**, **African Cuckoo**, **Lesser Honeyguide**, **Familiar Chat**, **Kalahari Scrub Robin**, **Barred Wren-Warbler**, **Black-chested Prinia**, and **Spotted Flycatcher**. Suddenly the valley erupted with the harsh but surprisingly beautiful call of **Hartlaub's Spurfowl**, our main target in the area, and it was only a matter of minutes before we found ourselves right in the middle of a territorial battle between two coveys of these near-endemics. At least nine birds from the two groups gave us lengthy views and fantastic photographic opportunities to capture the sexual dimorphism found within the species. After flushing a pair of klipspringer on the way back to camp we hopped in the vehicle to get as much birding done as possible

before the heat caught up with us. The bush was alive with birdcalls, and we added **Brown Snake Eagle, Shikra, Purple Roller, Damara Red-billed Hornbill, Sabota Lark, Southern Pied Babbler, Groundscraper Thrush, Capped Wheatear, Yellow-bellied Eremomela, and Marico Flycatcher** in quick succession.



Hartlaub's Spurfowl - *Pternistis hartlaubi*

Day 6, 14 March 2015

Unfortunately this was our last morning in the Erongo Mountains, so with our bags packed we set out for one last walk around the lodge. An overhead **Tawny Eagle** was a pleasant surprise, while the usual suspects were hanging around the feeders once again. A pair of **Short-toed Rock Thrush** feeding a recently fledged youngster was a welcome addition to the trip list, and we spent a fair amount of time watching them forage and then muffle the young one's noises with an insect or two. Scanning the distant rocky ridges produced a pair of **Hartlaub's Spurfowl** announcing their presence, while **Pied Crows** soared overhead and **Monteiro's Hornbills** displayed above the pool. We left not long after they had completed their duet to start our long drive north to the famous Etosha National Park. En route we had numerous **Common Buzzards, Lanner Falcon, and Long-tailed Paradise Whydah** to briefly keep us busy before we reached the park's gate.

With all the administration out of the way, we offloaded our luggage and set straight to work. Mammals were now abundant, and on the grassy plains surrounding a waterhole just outside the lodge we located black-backed jackal, countless springbok, and a herd or two of greater kudu, which came down to drink. In the distance common wildebeest, plains zebra and giraffe were making their way too. The area was active with birdlife, as one would expect at any water source in the scorching climate. **Red-headed Finch** came to drink alongside **Cape Starling, Fork-tailed Drongo, Blacksmith Lapwing, European Bee-eater, Wattled Starling, and Red-capped Lark.** Pale Chanting Goshawks quartered over the plains while an **African Harrier-Hawk** chased after them. **Rock Martins** and **Barn Swallows** drank on the wing, and an out-of-place **African Cuckoo** visited briefly. As it cooled, we took a quick drive in the park and spent time with **Sociable Weaver, Ant-eating Chat, Chat Flycatcher, Dusky Sunbird, the elegant Blue Crane, Cape Crow, Crowned Lapwing, Northern Black Korhaan, Greater Kestrel, and the heaviest flying bird in the world, Kori Bustard.**

Secretarybirds were abundant. After returning for dinner we did our checklists at the floodlit waterhole, adding **Marsh Owl**, **Rufous-cheeked Nightjar**, and a number of thirsty mammals in the form of African elephant, a dozen black rhinoceros over the period of our stay, and a lone male lion, who stole the show late in the evening.



Black rhinoceros - *Diceros bicornis*

Day 7, 15 March 2015

Etosha National Park does not contain the most diverse of vegetation, and so today, although we did not add much in terms of species, the photographic opportunities and countless surprises around each corner sure made up for it. Our first bird out of the camp gate was yet another **Kori Bustard**, which then became one of the most commonly seen birds of day. **Yellow-billed Kites** were scavenging over the roads, whilst **Lesser Grey Shrikes** hawked from nearby trees. **Scaly-feathered Weavers** were active along the roadside with **Red-headed Finch**, **Lark-like Bunting**, **Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark**, and an unexpected **Pink-billed Lark**. **Ring-necked Dove**, **Sociable Weaver**, and **Burchell's Starling** were common, while the colorful **Lilac-breasted Roller** was not in short supply either. Another waterhole produced in excess of 500 **Abdim's Storks** and a dozen or so **African Openbills**, while a large shaded tree housed a family of five **Lanner Falcons**. A pale morph **Booted Eagle** sent everything into flight as it came down low over the water.

Mammals once again did not disappoint, and we had great views of South African ground squirrel, Cape hare, plains zebra, common warthog, giraffe, common wildebeest, red hartebeest, springbok, steenbok, and black-faced impala. A clan of spotted hyaena entertained us today, as well as a pride of lions next to the road, and then another large, old, battle-scared male lion occurred right next to the vehicle on the way back to camp.



Abdim's Stork - *Ciconia abdimii*

Day 8, 16 March 2015

Having worked the west of the reserve extensively, we moved further east to the large tracks of mopane bushveld. Along the way we encountered **Common Ostrich**, **Greater Kestrel** by the dozens, flocks of **Blue Cranes**, **Swallow-tailed Bee-eaters**, **African Grey Hornbill**, **Marabou Stork**, **Black-winged Stilt**, **African Harrier-Hawk**, **Little Grebe**, and the same flock of **African Openbills** and **Abdim's Storks** as yesterday. A small seepage produced **Quailfinch**, **Red-billed Teal**, **South African Shelduck**, and a bathing **Bateleur**.

Moving towards Halali in the center of the park we picked up **Lilac-breasted Roller**, **Secretarybird**, **Yellow-billed Kite**, **Tawny Eagle**, **Lanner Falcon**, **Namaqua Sandgrouse**, **Crowned** and **Blacksmith Lapwings**, **Wood Sandpiper**, **European Bee-eater**, **Sabota Lark**, **Red-capped Lark**, and **Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark**. **Barn Swallows** and **Red-breasted Swallows** were numerous, while the open plains produced **Cape** and **Pied Crows**, **Capped Wheatear**, **Ant-eating Chat**, **African Pipit**, **Lesser Grey Shrike**, **Wattled Starling**, **Southern Grey-headed Sparrow**, and **Shaft-tailed Whydah**. A clan of spotted hyaena entertained us for a while before further up the road we ran into a pride of lions resting in the shade of a tree, watching over large numbers of impala, plains zebra, giraffe, common warthog, common wildebeest, red hartebeest, springbok, and a small group of gemsbok.

A brief stop for a magnificent specimen of a black rhino in the road was much enjoyed by all, before we arrived in the well-wooded area around our new accommodation, which produced **Violet Wood Hoopoe**, **African Hoopoe**, and **White-crested Helmetshrike**, while **Eurasian Hobbies** emerged at dusk to feed.



Lion - *Panthera leo*



Lion - *Panthera leo*

Day 9, 17 March 2015

Birding the new landscape today was bound to be rewarding, and directly after leaving the campgrounds we ran into a flock of **Common Ostrich** and a pair of black rhino on the road, followed by **White-backed Vulture**, **Bateleur**, and **Secretarybird** flying overhead in search of their feeding grounds for the day. Arriving at a small dam situated in the mopane bush yielded **Pale Chanting Goshawk**, **Helmeted Guineafowl**, **Kori Bustard**, **African Jacana**, **Blacksmith Lapwing**, **African Wattled Lapwing**, **Wood Sandpiper**, **Black-winged Stilt**, **Little Grebe**, **Grey Heron**, and an unsuspected **Dwarf Bittern**, which we watched skulking alongside the water's edge.

We then moved on to a much larger dam, and the surrounding woodland in the area produced **Egyptian Goose**, **South African Shelduck**, **Red-billed Teal**, **Cape Shoveler**, **Ring-necked Dove**, **Namaqua Dove**, **Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark**, **Pearl-spotted Owlet**, **European Bee-eater**, **African**

Pipit, Swallow-tailed Bee-eater, Lilac-breasted Roller, Purple Roller, African Hoopoe, and African Grey Hornbill. A huge breeding herd of over 40 African elephants came down to drink and play in the mud among drinking plains zebra and giraffe, a real highlight of the morning as we watched the youngsters learning how to use their trunks. Spending a little more time in the area was worthwhile, as at the very same waterhole we encountered a mother cheetah and her teenage cubs, which came down to drink and attempted to hunt some springbok unsuccessfully before vanishing into the woodland.



African Elephant - *Loxodonta africana*



African Elephant - *Loxodonta africana*



Gemsbok - *Oryx gazella*



Cheetah - *Acinonyx jubatus*

Heading for a late-afternoon walk in camp we enjoyed **Violet Wood Hoopoe, Damara Red-billed Hornbill, Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill, Barn Swallow, Fork-tailed Drongo, Eurasian Golden Oriole, African Red-eyed Bulbul, Groundscraper Thrush, Willow Warbler, Lesser Grey Shrike, White-crested Helmetshrike, Wattled Starling, Cape Starling, Southern Grey-headed Sparrow, Red-billed Buffalo Weaver, Red-headed Weaver, and White-browed Sparrow-Weaver.** A small pond with a viewing platform on the camp's boundary allowed us to watch **Violet-eared Waxbill and Golden-breasted, Cinnamon, and Lark-like Buntings,** while a Smith's bush squirrel fed around our feet on recently fallen fruit. A Bocage's mabuya made it onto our list no long thereafter, a rather robust arboreal lizard, which actively hunts insects.

Day 10, 18 March 2015

Our plan for today was to move towards the eastern boundary of the park, leaving the mopane woodland behind and venturing into the thorny savanna system. **Northern Black Korhaan, Kori Bustard, and Common Ostrich** were abundant on the plains, as too were springbok, the dainty steenbok, and common wildebeest. A small body of water along the way housed **Little Grebe, Reed Cormorant, African Darter, White Stork, Abdim's Stork, Egyptian Goose, African Jacana, Common Moorhen, South African Shelduck, Red-billed Teal, Cape Shoveler, and bathing White-backed Vultures**. A brief flyover of an adult **Shikra** was welcome, while **Pale Chanting Goshawk** and **African Harrier-Hawk** gave us slightly longer views. **Crested Francolin** as well as small numbers of **Red-billed Spurfowl** and **Helmeted Guineafowl** patrolled the roadsides. Around the corner we stumbled upon a brilliant pair of **Double-banded Coursers**, which allowed for some really good photographic opportunities, given the heat haze, while up the road a small spring yielded a single **Saddle-billed Stork, Blue Crane**, and a very unusual find for the area in form of a single **Wattled Crane**.



Pale Chanting Goshawk - *Melierax canorus*



Kori Bustard - *Ardeotis kori*

Exiting the park briefly to visit a salt pan produced **Blacksmith Lapwing, Crowned Lapwing, Common Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, Common Greenshank, Curlew Sandpiper, Little Stint, Ruff, Pied Avocet, Black-winged Stilt, White-fronted, Chestnut-banded, and Kittlitz's Plovers**, and large quantities of **Temminck's Coursers** on the nearby grasslands. Venturing back along the thorny edge of a large but dry pan turned up a pair of **Burchell's Sandgrouse, Grey Go-away-bird, Lilac-breasted Roller, European Bee-eater, Swallow-tailed Bee-eater, African Hoopoe, African Grey Hornbill, Damara Red-billed Hornbill**, a single **Bennett's Woodpecker, Fork-tailed Drongo, African Red-eyed Bulbul, Marico Flycatcher, African Pipit, Buffy Pipit, and Red-backed Shrike**, as well as **Ring-necked, Namaqua, and Laughing Doves** and **Emerald-spotted Wood Dove**. A pair of Damara dik-dik was also a pleasure to view, as were all the other usual antelope species we encountered along the way. Not long before departing the park a pack of black-backed jackals on the local airstrip were acting very strangely, and it took us a few minutes to realize why: Hidden beneath a thorny tree stood a beautiful male leopard, which had seemingly just caught an unsuspecting springbok and was in the process of trying to catch his breath. Although the photographic opportunities were dismal, the sighting itself was one of the best of the trip, as we had searched long and hard to connect with this somewhat elusive species of cat for the last few days in a number of very likely areas around the park.



Damara Dik-dik - *Madoqua kirkii damarensis*



Red-billed Spurfwowl - *Pternistis adspersus*

Day 11, 19 March 2015

After a rewarding visit to Etosha National Park our stay here drew to an end, and we made our way north towards the Caprivi Strip, bordering Botswana and Zambia. Our first stop was alongside the road to view a displaying **Red-crested Korhaan**, a species that we had heard but that had eluded us numerous times up until this point. The drive ahead of us was a long one, but we managed to fit in some time for brunch at a quaint campsite along the way, which also boasted a healthy number of bird species. While the cooking was underway we sauntered around the campgrounds, where we found the

likes of **Red-billed Spurfowl**, **Grey Go-away-bird**, **Crimson-breasted Shrike**, **Little Sparrowhawk**, **Yellow-breasted Apalis**, **Black-backed Puffback**, **Blue Waxbill**, **Golden-breasted Bunting**, and the bird of the day in form of the fairly localized **Black-faced Babbler**. A small group of these birds was actively feeding around the restrooms throughout the duration of our meal and allowed for some great photographic opportunities.

Back in the car, our trip north continued. Again with time on our hands we visited the local sewage works in Rundu late in the afternoon. The area was well flooded and overgrown, and this certainly improved the birding. **Southern Carmine Bee-eaters** hawked over the flooded grassland alongside **Whiskered Terns** and a small flock of **Little Bee-eaters**. **Burchell's Starling**, **Wattled Starling**, and **Western Cattle Egret** chased after the insects flushed from a herd of cattle passing through the area. Scanning the fringe of a larger body of open water produced **African Darter**, **African Swampphen**, **Black Crake**, **Striated Heron**, and **African Sacred Ibis**. A walk through the marsh allowed us views of countless **Rufous-bellied Herons**, **African Rail**, **Greater Painted-snipe**, **Black Heron**, **African Jacana**, and **African Marsh Harrier**. In the thorny thicket back at the car we saw **Hartlaub's Babbler**, **Blue-cheeked Bee-eater**, **Mourning Collared Dove**, **Red-eyed Dove**, **White-browed Robin-Chat**, **Woodland Kingfisher**, and flyovers of both **Giant Kingfisher** and **Long-toed Lapwing**, before we left for dinner and a well-deserved rest after a fairly long but rewarding travel day.

Day 12, 20 March 2015

Today we moved towards our final leg in Botswana. En route we encountered **Greater Blue-eared Starling** in the town of Bagani after a fairly long mornings drive. Arriving at a quaint lodge near the border we birded the ground until lunchtime, where we enjoyed **Bateleur**, **Dark-capped Bulbul**, **Golden-tailed Woodpecker**, **African Paradise Flycatcher**, **Woodland Kingfisher**, **Green Wood Hoopoe**, **Terrestrial Brownbul**, **Meves's Starling**, **Eurasian Golden Oriole**, **Red-billed Oxpecker**, and **White-fronted Bee-eater**. We then rushed our way through Mahango Game Park, part of the large Bwabwata National Park, where we briefly stopped to view a pair of **Wattled Crane** among a number of tsessebe, roan antelope, impala, and a herd of African elephant, before photographing a leopard tortoise drinking from a rain puddle that had formed in the road.

The weather was brewing, and, with a long boat ride ahead of us once reaching Botswana, we made the call to push on through the unusually quiet border post and drove straight through to Shakawe to try and avoid being caught in the storm we were heading for. Upon arrival we had a quick cup of coffee before packing the boat and covering all we had in plastic, just to be on the safe side. The boat trip along the Okavango River, the starting point of the incomparable Okavango Delta, was an absolute highlight. From the papyrus fringes we flushed **Reed Cormorant** and **African Darter**, **Great Egret**, **Little Egret**, **Western Cattle Egret**, **Hamerkop**, **African Marsh Harrier**, **Coppery-tailed Coucal**, and **Striated Heron**.

Arriving at our luxury accommodation built on a temporary island on the river, we flushed a flock of **African Pygmy Geese**, and not long after a pair of **White-backed Night Herons** from a thick tangle of overhanging vegetation along the banks.

A quick late-afternoon walk along the riverside before dinner produced **Black-winged Kite**, **European**, **Little**, **White-fronted**, and **Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters**, **Bateleur**, **Black Crake**, **Eurasian Golden Oriole**, **Arrow-marked Babbler**, **Hartlaub's Babbler**, **Dark-capped Bulbul**, **Terrestrial Brownbul**, **White-browed Robin-Chat**, **Chinspot Batis**, **African Paradise Flycatcher**, **African Pied Wagtail**, **Cape Wagtail**, **Magpie Shrike**, **Swamp Boubou**, **Southern White-crowned Shrike**, **Water Thick-knee**, **Red-eyed Dove**, **Pied**, **Woodland**, and **Giant Kingfishers**, **Laughing Dove**, **African Green Pigeon**, **Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird**, **Golden-tailed Woodpecker**, calling **African Barred Owlets**, and a stunner of a **Pel's Fishing Owl** roosting not far from the campsite. **Wire-tailed** and **South African Cliff Swallows** hawked insects over the river alongside **Brown-throated Martins**. **Burchell's**, **Meves's** and **Greater Blue-eared Starlings** showed well, as did both **Yellow-billed** and **Red-billed Oxpeckers**, while **White-bellied Sunbirds** actively fed on the nectar of flowers in the area, with both **Spectacled** and **Holub's Golden Weavers** in close proximity. Just before dusk we glimpsed a female sitatunga, a species of antelope adapted to these swampy, which is not regularly encountered.



White-backed Night Heron - *Gorsachius leuconotus*

Day 13, 21 March 2015

Today was very special in that we had a full day on the island as well as the boat at our disposal. We opted for a boat ride first thing in the morning, where we located **Reed Cormorant**, **African Darter**, **Goliath Heron**, **Purple Heron**, **Western Cattle Egret**, **Striated Heron**, **Hamerkop**, and the same pair of **White-backed Night Herons** at the lodge. A large dead tree had a few roosting **Hadada Ibis** in it, while both **Spur-winged Geese** and **African Pygmy Geese** were seen from the boat. Raptors were fairly abundant, and we had **Yellow-billed Kite**, **Black-winged Kite**, **African Marsh Harrier**, **Bateleur**, **African Fish Eagle**, and a flyover of a **Western Banded Snake Eagle**. Moving upstream we added **African** and **Lesser Jacanas**, **Grey-headed Gull**, and another of the sought-after **Pel's Fishing Owls** hiding out in a well-wooded garden near the town of Shakawe, where we also added **Bradfield's Hornbill** and **Chirping Cisticola**.

Back on dry ground another walk around camp and along the river allowed us views of **Red-billed Spurfowl**, **Black Crake**, **African Swamphen**, **Blacksmith Lapwing**, **Red-eyed Dove**, **Meyer's Parrot**, **Coppery-tailed Coucal**, **Red-faced Mousebird**, **Pied**, **Giant**, **Woodland**, and **Malachite Kingfishers**, **Broad-billed Roller**, **Green Wood Hoopoe**, **Black-collared Barbet**, **Crested Barbet**, **Lesser Honeyguide**, **Bennett's Woodpecker**, **Lesser Striped Swallow**, **Spotted Flycatcher**, **Ashy Flycatcher**, **Swamp Boubou**, **Southern Brown-throated Weaver**, and the beautiful **Brown Firefinch** just before the trip's final dinner.



Pel's Fishing Owl - *Scotopelia peli*



African Fish Eagle - *Haliaeetus vocifer*



Little Bee-eater - *Merops pusillus*

Day 14, 22 March 2015

Today marked the end of a very successful tour. With only enough time to make it to the airport, we boarded the boat at first light and made our way back to the vehicle a couple of kilometers upstream. En route we picked up a couple of the regular waterbirds as well as Nile crocodile and a pod of hippos, before packing the vehicle and making the lengthy drive to Maun just in time for lunch and our good-byes before departing

NAMIBIA AND OKAVANGO CUSTOM TOUR BIRD LIST		
(E) - country endemic, H = heard only Status: NT = Near-threatened, VU = Vulnerable, EN = Endangered		
Common Name (IOC 5.3)	Scientific Name (IOC 5.3)	Trip
	STRUTHIONIFORMES	
Ostriches	Struthionidae	
Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>	1
	ANSERIFORMES	
Ducks, Geese and Swans	Anatidae	
Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>	1
Knob-billed Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>	1
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	1
South African Shelduck	<i>Tadorna cana</i>	1
African Pygmy Goose	<i>Nettapus auritus</i>	1
Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>	1
Cape Shoveler	<i>Anas smithii</i>	1

Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>	1
Hottentot Teal	<i>Anas hottentota</i>	1
	GALLIFORMES	
Guineafowl	Numididae	
Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	1
Pheasants and allies	Phasianidae	
Orange River Francolin	<i>Scleroptila gutturalis</i>	1
Crested Francolin	<i>Dendroperdix sephaena</i>	1
Hartlaub's Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis hartlaubi</i>	1
Red-billed Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis adspersus</i>	1
	PODICIPEDIFORMES	
Grebes	Podicipedidae	
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	1
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	1
	PHOENICOPTERIFORMES	
Flamingos	Phoenicopteridae	
Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopus roseus</i>	1
Lesser Flamingo - NT	<i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>	1
	CICONIIFORMES	
Storks	Ciconiidae	
African Openbill	<i>Anastomus lamelligerus</i>	1
Abdim's Stork	<i>Ciconia abdimii</i>	1
White Stork	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	1
Saddle-billed Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis</i>	1
Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumenifer</i>	1
	PELECANIFORMES	
Ibises, Spoonbills	Threskiornithidae	
African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	1
Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>	1
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	1
Hérons, Bitterns	Ardeidae	
Dwarf Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus sturmii</i>	1
White-backed Night Heron	<i>Gorsachius leuconotus</i>	1
Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	1
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	1
Rufous-bellied Heron	<i>Ardeola rufiventris</i>	1
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	1
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1
Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>	1
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	1
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	1
Black Heron	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>	1

Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	1
Hamerkop	Scopidae	
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	1
Pelicans	Pelecanidae	
Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	1
	SULIFORMES	
Gannets, Boobies	Sulidae	
Cape Gannet - VU	<i>Morus capensis</i>	1
Cormorants, Shags	Phalacrocoracidae	
Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>	1
White-breasted Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>	1
Cape Cormorant - EN	<i>Phalacrocorax capensis</i>	1
Anhingas, Darters	Anhingidae	
African Darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>	1
	ACCIPITRIFORMES	
Secretarybird	Sagittariidae	
Secretarybird - VU	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>	1
Kites, Hawks and Eagles	Accipitridae	
Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	1
African Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>	1
White-backed Vulture - EN	<i>Gyps africanus</i>	1
Lappet-faced Vulture - VU	<i>Torgos tracheliotos</i>	1
Brown Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>	1
Western Banded Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinerascens</i>	1
Bateleur - NT	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>	1
Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	1
Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>	1
Verreaux's Eagle	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>	1
Pale Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax canorus</i>	1
Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	1
Little Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter minullus</i>	1
Ovambo Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter ovampensis</i>	1
African Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>	1
Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>	1
African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>	1
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1
Augur Buzzard	<i>Buteo augur</i>	1
	OTIDIFORMES	
Bustards	Otididae	
Kori Bustard - NT	<i>Ardeotis kori</i>	1
Rüppell's Korhaan	<i>Eupodotis rueppellii</i>	1
Red-crested Korhaan	<i>Lophotis ruficrista</i>	1

Northern Black Korhaan	<i>Afrotis afraoides</i>	1
	GRUIFORMES	
Rails, Crakes and Coots	Rallidae	
African Rail	<i>Rallus caerulescens</i>	1
Black Crake	<i>Amaurornis flavirostra</i>	1
African Swampphen	<i>Porphyrio madagascariensis</i>	1
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	1
Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>	1
Cranes	Gruidae	
Blue Crane - VU	<i>Grus paradisea</i>	1
Wattled Crane - VU	<i>Grus carunculata</i>	1
	CHARADRIIFORMES	
Stone-curlews, Thick-knees	Burhinidae	
Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>	1
Oystercatchers	Haematopodidae	
African Oystercatcher - NT	<i>Haematopus moquini</i>	1
Stilts, Avocets	Recurvirostridae	
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	1
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	1
Plovers	Charadriidae	
Long-toed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus crassirostris</i>	1
Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>	1
Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>	1
African Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>	1
Pacific Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	1
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	1
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	1
Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>	1
Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>	1
White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>	1
Chestnut-banded Plover - NT	<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>	1
Painted-snipes	Rostratulidae	
Greater Painted-snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>	1
Jacanas	Jacanidae	
Lesser Jacana	<i>Microparra capensis</i>	1
African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>	1
Sandpipers, Snipes	Scolopacidae	
Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	1
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	1
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	1
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	1
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	1

Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	1
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	1
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	1
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	1
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	1
Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	1
Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	1
Coursers, Pratincoles	Glareolidae	
Temminck's Courser	<i>Cursorius temminckii</i>	1
Double-banded Courser	<i>Rhinoptilus africanus</i>	1
Gulls, Terns and Skimmers	Laridae	
Grey-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>	1
Hartlaub's Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus hartlaubii</i>	1
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	1
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	1
Greater Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	1
Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	1
Damara Tern - NT	<i>Sternula balaenarum</i>	1
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	1
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	1
Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>	1
	PTEROCLIFORMES	
Sandgrouse	Pteroclididae	
Namaqua Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles namaqua</i>	1
Double-banded Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles bicinctus</i>	H
Burchell's Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles burchelli</i>	1
	COLUMBIFORMES	
Pigeons, Doves	Columbidae	
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	1
Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	1
Mourning Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>	1
Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	1
Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	1
Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	1
Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>	1
Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>	1
African Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calvus</i>	1
	MUSOPHAGIFORMES	
Turacos	Musophagidae	
Grey Go-away-bird	<i>Corythaixoides concolor</i>	1
	CUCULIFORMES	
Cuckoos	Cuculidae	

Senegal Coucal	<i>Centropus senegalensis</i>	1
Coppery-tailed Coucal	<i>Centropus cupreicaudus</i>	1
Klaas's Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>	1
African Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus gularis</i>	1
	STRIGIFORMES	
Barn Owls	Tytonidae	
Western Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	H
Owls	Strigidae	
African Scops Owl	<i>Otus senegalensis</i>	H
Spotted Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>	1
Pel's Fishing Owl	<i>Scotopelia peli</i>	1
Pearl-spotted Owlet	<i>Glaucidium perlatus</i>	1
African Barred Owlet	<i>Glaucidium capense</i>	H
Marsh Owl	<i>Asio capensis</i>	1
	CAPRIMULGIFORMES	
Nightjars	Caprimulgidae	
Rufous-cheeked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus rufigena</i>	1
Fiery-necked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus pectoralis</i>	H
Freckled Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus tristigma</i>	1
	APODIFORMES	1
Swifts	Apodidae	
African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	1
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	1
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	1
White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>	1
	COLIIFORMES	
Mousebirds	Coliidae	
White-backed Mousebird	<i>Colius colius</i>	1
Red-faced Mousebird	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>	1
	CORACIIFORMES	
Rollers	Coraciidae	
Purple Roller	<i>Coracias naevius</i>	1
Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudatus</i>	1
Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>	1
Kingfishers	Alcedinidae	
Woodland Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon senegalensis</i>	1
Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>	1
Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>	1
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	1
Bee-eaters	Meropidae	
Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>	1
Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>	1

White-fronted Bee-eater	<i>Merops bullockoides</i>	1
Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	<i>Merops persicus</i>	1
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	1
Southern Carmine Bee-eater	<i>Merops nubicoides</i>	1
	BUCEROTIFORMES	
Hoopoes	Upupidae	
African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>	1
Wood Hoopoes	Phoeniculidae	
Green Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>	1
Violet Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus damarensis</i>	1
Common Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>	1
Hornbills	Bucerotidae	
Damara Red-billed Hornbill (E)	<i>Tockus damarensis</i>	1
Monteiro's Hornbill	<i>Tockus monteiri</i>	1
Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus leucomelas</i>	1
Bradfield's Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros bradfieldi</i>	1
African Grey Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros nasutus</i>	1
	PICIFORMES	
African Barbets	Lybiidae	
Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>	1
Acacia Pied Barbet	<i>Tricholaema leucomelas</i>	1
Black-collared Barbet	<i>Lybius torquatus</i>	1
Crested Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus vaillantii</i>	1
Honeyguides	Indicatoridae	
Lesser Honeyguide	<i>Indicator minor</i>	1
Woodpeckers	Picidae	
Bennett's Woodpecker	<i>Campethera bennettii</i>	1
Golden-tailed Woodpecker	<i>Campethera abingoni</i>	1
	FALCONIFORMES	
Caracaras, Falcons	Falconidae	
Rock Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicolus</i>	1
Greater Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicoloides</i>	1
Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	1
Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	1
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	1
	PSITTACIFORMES	
African & New World Parrots	Psittacidae	
Meyer's Parrot	<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i>	1
Old World Parrots	Psittaculidae	
Rosy-faced Lovebird	<i>Agapornis roseicollis</i>	1
	PASSERIFORMES	
Wattle-eyes, Batises	Platysteiridae	

Chinspot Batis	<i>Batis molitor</i>	1
Pririt Batis	<i>Batis pririt</i>	1
White-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanioturdus torquatus</i>	1
Helmetshrikes	Prionopidae	
White-crested Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>	1
Bushshrikes	Malaconotidae	
Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubla</i>	1
Swamp Boubou	<i>Laniarius bicolor</i>	1
Crimson-breasted Shrike	<i>Laniarius atrococcineus</i>	1
Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>	H
Shrikes	Laniidae	
Magpie Shrike	<i>Urolestes melanoleucus</i>	1
Southern White-crowned Shrike	<i>Eurocephalus anguitimens</i>	1
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	1
Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>	1
Southern Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>	1
Figbirds, Orioles	Oriolidae	
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	1
Drongos	Dicruridae	
Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	1
Monarchs	Monarchidae	
African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>	1
Crows, Jays	Corvidae	
Cape Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>	1
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	1
Tits, Chickadees	Paridae	
Carp's Tit	<i>Melaniparus carpi</i>	1
Penduline Tits	Remizidae	
Cape Penduline Tit	<i>Anthoscopus minutus</i>	1
Larks	Alaudidae	
Spike-heeled Lark	<i>Chersomanes albofasciata</i>	1
Gray's Lark	<i>Ammomanopsis grayi</i>	1
Karoo Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda subcoronata</i>	1
Grey-backed Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix verticalis</i>	1
Sabota Lark	<i>Calendulauda sabota</i>	1
Dune Lark (E)	<i>Calendulauda erythrochlamys</i>	1
Stark's Lark	<i>Spizocorys starki</i>	1
Pink-billed Lark	<i>Spizocorys conirostris</i>	1
Red-capped Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>	1
Bulbuls	Pycnonotidae	
African Red-eyed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus nigricans</i>	1
Dark-capped Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus tricolor</i>	1

Terrestrial Brownbul	<i>Phyllastrephus terrestris</i>	1
Swallows, Martins	Hirundinidae	
Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	1
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	1
White-throated Swallow	<i>Hirundo albigularis</i>	1
Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>	1
Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>	1
Greater Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis cucullata</i>	1
Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>	1
Red-breasted Swallow	<i>Cecropis semirufa</i>	1
South African Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon spilodera</i>	1
Crombecs, African Warblers	Macrospenidae	
Rockrunner	<i>Achaetops pycnopygius</i>	1
Long-billed Crombec	<i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>	1
Leaf Warblers and allies	Phylloscopidae	
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	1
Reed Warblers and allies	Acrocephalidae	
Greater Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus rufescens</i>	H
Lesser Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus gracilirostris</i>	1
Icterine Warbler	<i>Hippolais icterina</i>	1
Cisticolas and allies	Cisticolidae	
Chirping Cisticola	<i>Cisticola pipiens</i>	1
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	1
Black-chested Prinia	<i>Prinia flavicans</i>	1
Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flavida</i>	1
Grey-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brevicaudata</i>	1
Barred Wren-Warbler	<i>Calamonastes fasciolatus</i>	1
Yellow-bellied Eremomela	<i>Eremomela icteropygialis</i>	1
Laughingthrushes	Leiothrichidae	
Black-faced Babbler	<i>Turdoides melanops</i>	1
Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>	1
Hartlaub's Babbler	<i>Turdoides hartlaubii</i>	1
Southern Pied Babbler	<i>Turdoides bicolor</i>	1
Sylviid Babblers	Sylviidae	
Chestnut-vented Warbler	<i>Sylvia subcaerulea</i>	1
Starlings, Rhabdornis	Sturnidae	
Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>	1
Cape Starling	<i>Lamprotornis nitens</i>	1
Greater Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>	1
Meves's Starling	<i>Lamprotornis mevesii</i>	1
Burchell's Starling	<i>Lamprotornis australis</i>	1
Violet-backed Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>	1

Pale-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus nabouroup</i>	1
Oxpeckers	Buphagidae	
Yellow-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus africanus</i>	1
Red-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>	1
Thrushes	Turdidae	
Groundscraper Thrush	<i>Turdus litsitsirupa</i>	1
Chats, Old World Flycatchers	Muscicapidae	
Kalahari Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas paena</i>	1
Chat Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis infuscatus</i>	1
Marico Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis mariquensis</i>	1
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	1
Ashy Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa caerulescens</i>	1
White-browed Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha heuglini</i>	1
Short-toed Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola brevipes</i>	1
Tractrac Chat	<i>Emarginata tractrac</i>	1
Ant-eating Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla formicivora</i>	1
Mountain Wheatear	<i>Myrmecocichla monticola</i>	1
Capped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>	1
Familiar Chat	<i>Oenanthe familiaris</i>	1
Sunbirds	Nectariniidae	
White-bellied Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris talatala</i>	1
Dusky Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris fuscus</i>	1
Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches	Passeridae	
White-browed Sparrow-Weaver	<i>Plocepasser mahali</i>	1
Sociable Weaver	<i>Philetairus socius</i>	1
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	1
Great Sparrow	<i>Passer motitensis</i>	1
Cape Sparrow	<i>Passer melanurus</i>	1
Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer diffusus</i>	1
Weavers, Widowbirds	Ploceidae	
Red-billed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Bubalornis niger</i>	1
Scaly-feathered Weaver	<i>Sporopipes squamifrons</i>	1
Spectacled Weaver	<i>Ploceus ocularis</i>	1
Holub's Golden Weaver	<i>Ploceus xanthops</i>	1
Southern Brown-throated Weaver	<i>Ploceus xanthopterus</i>	1
Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>	1
Red-headed Weaver	<i>Anaplectes rubriceps</i>	1
Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>	1
Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>	1
Waxbills, Munias and allies	Estrildidae	
Green-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia melba</i>	1
Red-headed Finch	<i>Amadina erythrocephala</i>	1

Brown Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta nitidula</i>	1
Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>	1
Blue Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>	1
Violet-eared Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus granatinus</i>	1
Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>	1
Black-faced Waxbill	<i>Estrilda erythronotos</i>	1
Quailfinch	<i>Ortygospiza atricollis</i>	1
Indigobirds, Whydahs	Viduidae	
Village Indigobird	<i>Vidua chalybeata</i>	1
Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>	1
Shaft-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua regia</i>	1
Long-tailed Paradise Whydah	<i>Vidua paradisaea</i>	1
Wagtails, Pipits	Motacillidae	
Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>	1
African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>	1
African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>	1
Buffy Pipit	<i>Anthus vaalensis</i>	1
Finches	Fringillidae	
Black-throated Canary	<i>Crithagra atrogularis</i>	1
Buntings, New World Sparrows	Emberizidae	
Lark-like Bunting	<i>Emberiza impetواني</i>	1
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza tahapisi</i>	1
Cape Bunting	<i>Emberiza capensis</i>	1
Golden-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>	1
TOTAL		302

NAMIBIA AND OKAVANGO CUSTOM TOUR MAMMAL LIST		
Common Name (IUCN)	Scientific Name (IUCN)	Trip
	CHIROPTERA	
	Pteropodidae	
Egyptian fruit bat	<i>Rousettus aegyptiacus</i>	1
	RODENTIA	
	Petromuridae	
Dassie rat	<i>Petromus typicus</i>	1
	Muridae	
Acacia rat	<i>Thallomys paedulus</i>	1
	Sciuridae	
South African ground squirrel	<i>Xerus inauris</i>	1
Smith's bush squirrel	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>	1
	LAGOMORPHA	
	Leporidae	

Cape hare	<i>Lepus capensis</i>	1
	HYRACOIDEA	
	Procaviidae	
Rock hyrax	<i>Procavia capensis</i>	1
	PROBOSCIDEA	
	Elephantidae	
African elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	1
	PERISSODACTYLA	
	Equidae	
Hartmann's mountain zebra	<i>Equus zebra hartmannae</i>	1
Plains zebra	<i>Equus quagga</i>	1
	Rhinocerotidae	
Black rhinoceros	<i>Diceros bicornis</i>	1
	ARTIODACTYLA	
	Hippopotamidae	
Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	1
	Suidae	
Common warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	1
	Giraffidae	
Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	1
	Bovidae	
Common wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>	1
Red hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus caama</i>	1
Tsessebe	<i>Damaliscus lunatus lunatus</i>	1
Common duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>	1
Springbok	<i>Antidorcas marsupialis</i>	1
Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>	1
Damara dik-dik	<i>Madoqua kirkii damarensis</i>	1
Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>	1
Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus melampus</i>	1
Black-faced impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus petersi</i>	1
Roan antelope	<i>Hippotragus equinus</i>	1
Gemsbok	<i>Oryx gazella</i>	1
Greater kudu	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>	1
Sitatunga	<i>Tragelaphus spekii</i>	1
Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>	1
Eland	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>	1
	CARNIVORA	
	Hyaenidae	
Spotted hyaena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>	1
	Felidae	
Cheetah	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	1

Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	1
Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>	1
	Canidae	
Black-backed jackal	<i>Canis mesomelas</i>	1
	Mustelidae	
Spotted-necked otter	<i>Lutra maculicollis</i>	1
	Herpestidae	
Yellow mongoose	<i>Cynictis penicillata</i>	1
Slender mongoose	<i>Galerella sanguinea</i>	1
Banded mongoose	<i>Mungos mungo</i>	1
	Otariidae	
Afro-Australian fur seal	<i>Arctocephalus pusillus</i>	1
	PRIMATES	
	Cercopithecidae	
Chacma baboon	<i>Papio ursinus</i>	1
Vervet	<i>Chlorocebus pygerythrus</i>	1
	CETACEA	
	Delphinidae	
Common bottlenose dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	1
TOTAL		43

NAMIBIA AND OKAVANGO CUSTOM TOUR REPTILE LIST		
Common Name (Reptile Database)	Scientific Name (Reptile Database)	Trip
	SQUAMATA	
	Agamidae	
Namib rock agama	<i>Agama planiceps</i>	1
	Chamaeleonidae	
Flapneck chameleon	<i>Chamaeleo dilepis</i>	1
	Gerrhosauridae	
Black-lined plated lizard	<i>Gerrhosaurus nigrolineatus</i>	1
	Lacertidae	
Wedge-snouted desert lizard	<i>Meroles cuneirostris</i>	1
	Gekkonidae	
Koch's chirping gecko	<i>Ptenopus kochi</i>	1
	Scincidae	
Bocage's mabuya	<i>Trachylepis binotata</i>	1
Variable skink	<i>Trachylepis varia</i>	1
	CROCODYLIA	
	Crocodylidae	
Nile crocodile	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	1
	TESTUDINES	
	Pelomedusidae	

Marsh terrapin	<i>Pelomedusa subrufa</i>	1
	Testudinidae	
Leopard tortoise	<i>Stigmochelys pardalis</i>	1
TOTAL		10