



UGANDA: COMPREHENSIVE CUSTOM TRIP REPORT

1 – 17 JULY 2018

By Dylan Vasapolli



*The iconic **Shoebill** was one of our major targets and didn't disappoint!*

Overview

This private, comprehensive tour of Uganda focused on the main sites of the central and western reaches of the country, with the exception of the Semliki Valley and Mgahinga National Park. Taking place during arguably the best time to visit the country, July, this two-and-a-half-week tour focused on both the birds and mammals of the region.

We were treated to a spectacular trip generally, with good weather throughout, allowing us to maximize our exploration of all the various sites visited. Beginning in Entebbe, the iconic **Shoebill** fell early on, along with the difficult **Weyns's Weaver** and the sought-after **Papyrus Gonolek**. Transferring up to Masindi, we called in at the famous Royal Mile, Budongo Forest, where we had some spectacular birding – **White-spotted Flufftail**, **Cassin's** and **Sabine's Spinetails**, **Chocolate-backed** and **African Dwarf Kingfishers**, **White-thighed Hornbill**, **Ituri Batis**, **Uganda Woodland Warbler**, **Scaly-breasted Illadopsis**, **Fire-crested Alethe**, and **Forest Robin**, while surrounding areas produced the sought-after **White-crested Turaco**, **Marsh Widowbird**, and **Brown Twinspot**. Murchison Falls followed and didn't disappoint, with the highlights being too many to list all – **Abyssinian Ground Hornbill**, **Black-headed Lapwing**, and **Northern Carmine Bee-eater** all featuring, along with many mammals including a pride of **Lions** and the scarce **Patas Monkey**, among others. The forested haven of Kibale was next up and saw us enjoying some quality time with our main quarry, **Chimpanzees**. A host of other primates were never far away, and the birds also impressed with **Shining-blue Kingfisher**, **Brown-chested Alethe**, **Cassin's Hawk-Eagle**, **Black Bee-eater**, **Jameson's Wattle-eye**, and **Brown Illadopsis**. Sadly our main 'bird quarry', **Green-breasted Pitta**, was only notable by its absence. Next on the agenda were the open plains and the Kazinga Channel of Queen Elizabeth National Park, giving up many of its gems, such as **African Crake**, **White-tailed Lark**, and **Black-lored Babbler**, while the channel was frequented by a host of large mammals, including **Forest Hog**, and a wealth of birds, including **African Skimmer**. The forested hills of the incredible Bwindi Impenetrable National Park held some of the most exciting moments of the trip! From trekking the rare **Eastern Gorillas** and being treated to a fantastic show to mouth-watering birding, yielding **Grauer's Broadbill**, **Neumann's Warbler**, **Red-throated Alethe**, **Bar-tailed Trogon**, **Chapin's** and **Yellow-eyed Black Flycatchers**, **Jameson's Antpecker**, **Handsome Francolin**, **Equatorial Akalat**, **Archer's Ground Robin**, **Rwenzori Batis**, **Lagden's Bushshrike**, **Grauer's Swamp Warbler**, **Stripe-breasted Tit**, **Mountain Masked** and **Rwenzori Apalises**, **Rwenzori Hill Babbler**, **Regal**, **Blue-headed**, and **Purple-breasted Sunbirds**, **Strange Weaver**, and **Dusky Crimsonwing**. Lake Mburo National Park was our last stop on the tour and yielded a fantastic finale with many excellent mammals and birds. Our highlights included a spectacular show by a group of **Pennant-winged Nightjars**, **African Finfoot**, **White-backed Night Heron**, **Verreaux's Eagle-Owl**, **Long-tailed Cisticola**, and some close-ups of bulky **Hippopotamuses** and many ungulates. A surprise roadside **Shoebill** greeted us as we traveled back to Entebbe, where the tour concluded.

We ended the tour with 494 bird species seen and 22 heard only, while the mammals were equally as good with over 40 species being seen. This just goes to show how richly biodiverse Uganda is, making it a superb country to travel in, with never a dull moment to be had!

Detailed Report

Day 1, 1st July 2018. Arrival in Entebbe and birding the Entebbe Botanical Garden

Mike and Gabi arrived in Entebbe in the midafternoon, and after checking into our comfortable guesthouse and meeting with our driver, Bosco (who would stay with us for the duration of the trip), we headed out to the nearby Entebbe Botanical Garden, where we spent the last hour or two of the day, stretching our legs after a long journey. We had a good time, and aside from a bit of exercise we found a few things to keep us busy. The larger trees with their high canopies played host to groups of the spectacular **Great Blue** and **Ross's Turacos**, while noisy **Eastern Plantain-eaters** were never far away. **Black-and-white-casqued Hornbills** thundered overhead, leaving us in awe of their immense size, while the comparatively small **Woodland Kingfisher** only enhanced the hornbills' size! A small group of **Guerezas** (Black-and-white Colobus) was a surprise and gave us some great views! A nesting **African Harrier-Hawk** played hide-and-seek, while a **Palm-nut Vulture** gave us a good flyby. Strange noises led us to **Grey Parrot** and we enjoyed good views of this popular pet trade species – although it's so much better to see them in the wild where they belong. Some of the thicker patches of scrub held **Crowned Hornbill**, **Double-toothed Barbet**, **Yellow-throated Leaflove**, **Scarlet-chested Sunbird**, **Brown-throated Wattle-eye**, and **Grey-backed Camaroptera**, while the edge of Lake Victoria gave us **African Openbill**, **Hamerkop**, **Broad-billed Roller**, **Olive Bee-eater**, **Red-chested Sunbird**, and **Golden-backed Weaver**. The open fringes of the lake and the surrounding manicured patches held **Winding Cisticola**, **Splendid Starling**, **Olive-bellied Sunbird**, and a few of the cute **Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu**. **Striped Ground Squirrels** were also present in these open areas. We eventually pulled ourselves away and headed back for a good dinner.



*The massive **Great Blue Turaco** was seen on a few occasions.*

Day 2, 2nd July 2018. Birding Mabamba Swamp and transfer to Masindi

Shoebill was one of our main targets of the trip, as it typically is for most trips to this central African country, and the early morning saw us heading out to the famous Mabamba Swamp, just outside Entebbe, where we would try our luck at this iconic, prehistoric-looking giant! A short ferry ride en route yielded both **Great White** and **Pink-backed Pelicans** along with others, such as **Marabou Stork** and **Purple and Striated Herons**. Before long we were walking to the shoreline and were about to climb into our dug-out canoe when we found nearby **Weyns's Weavers** – putting a break in proceedings as we enjoyed our views of this difficult, nomadic bird. As we headed out into the narrow channels we quickly found ourselves in a larger channel, and as if right on cue located a **Shoebill** perched up in front of us, on the edge of the channel. We slowly moved next to the bird and soaked up our views. We spent some time watching it, eagerly awaiting a hunt, but eventually moved away to continue our search for other species. We had a great time birding around here and enjoyed a wealth of birds, including **Squacco Heron**, **Black Crake**, **Long-toed Lapwing**, numbers of **Grey-headed Gulls** and **White-winged Terns**, secretive **Blue-headed Coucals**, dainty **Malachite Kingfishers**, **Blue-breasted Bee-eater**, **Greater Swamp Warbler**, **Swamp Flycatcher**, and **Northern Brown-throated, Black-headed, and Slender-billed Weavers**. Another of our main targets was **Papyrus Gonolek**, and we were treated to excellent views of this prized target without much effort! A surprise **African Cuckoo-Hawk** flew overhead in the middle of the swamps, and we also managed to find another **Shoebill** on a quiet track, but this one quickly walked out of view. All too soon we found ourselves back on land after an excellent excursion that yielded two different Shoebills – one of the most sought-after birds in the world. We birded our way to the main road, where we began the long journey to Masindi. Birding was slow going, but we did find a few of the sought-after **Blue Swallows**, **White-chinned Prinia**, and a brief **Red-headed Lovebird**, while **White-winged Swamp Warbler** remained heard only. As we neared Masindi in the late afternoon we resumed our birding, slowly working roadside woodlands, which were alive with birds. Progress was slow, as the birds just kept flowing in, and highlights were **Dark Chanting Goshawk**, **Blue-naped Mousebird**, **White-headed Barbet**, **Meyer's Parrot**, **Piapiac**, **Northern Puffback**, **Black-headed Gonolek**, **Grey-backed Fiscal**, **African Golden Oriole**, **Lesser Blue-eared Starling**, **Pale Flycatcher**, **Spotted Palm Thrush**, **Beautiful and Copper Sunbirds**, **Black-winged Red Bishop**, and a group of **Black-rumped Waxbills**. An isolated rain cloud brought our birding to a temporary halt, but it didn't last long. We stopped for a sought-after **Marsh Widowbird** perched atop a roadside bush soon after. Fortune smiled upon us, because, while we were watching the widowbird calling, a stunning **White-crested Turaco** appeared directly below it and hopped up into the open, giving us excellent views. It didn't hang around long, though, and soon took flight to a nearby thicket where it disappeared. This had arguably been our main target on this drive, and it was with some relief that we actually managed to get it! A pair of **Grey Crowned Cranes**, the national bird of Uganda, was a welcome sight on the outskirts of Masindi. A quick search at a nearby dam for **Grey-headed Oliveback** was unsuccessful, but it did yield our first **Tantalus Monkeys** along with more **Guerezas** (Black-and-white Colobus). We settled into our accommodation after a great day with more than 100 species and got ready for an exciting day tomorrow.

Day 3, 3rd July 2018. Birding the Royal Mile and surroundings

The Royal Mile in the Budongo Forest is arguably one of the country's most famous sites, and one of the best, home to many sought-after species more typical of the neighboring DRC. We collected Raymond, our excellent site guide, just outside the forest, and began well in locating a few of the

sought-after **White-thighed Hornbills** at the forest edge. Also present here were **African Pygmy Kingfisher**, **White-headed Saw-wing**, **Brown-backed Scrub Robin**, **Superb Sunbird**, **Black-bellied Firefinch**, **Black-crowned Waxbill**, and **Cabanis's Bunting**. We eventually pushed on into the forest proper and settled into a rhythm, slowly working our way along, following up on the many birds calling and bouts of activity. We took a little break while enjoying our lunch before resuming our birding and continuing into the midafternoon before we called it a day and made our way back to Masindi.

We had a stunning day in the forest and enjoyed great views of the secretive **White-spotted Flufftail** around some swampy areas, with the surroundings producing **Blue-breasted Kingfisher**, **Chestnut Wattle-eye**, **Grey Longbill**, **Yellow-browed Camaroptera**, **Purple-headed Starling**, **Little Green Sunbird**, and both **Red-headed** and **Crested Malimbos**, while **Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo** called incessantly but did well to remain unseen despite our best efforts. One of the other highlights were incredible views of the scarce **Scaly-breasted Illadopsis**, which had likewise been calling incessantly. We waited until we came across one close to the track and eventually found the 'right' one and got into position to call it in. We had to show some patience as the bird slowly worked its way towards us, and then all of a sudden the bird appeared practically right at our feet, where it walked slowly in a circle around us, giving some close-up views of this difficult-to-see species. The shy **Forest Robin** took a bit of effort to see, but patience gave us good, close looks at this denizen. The canopy areas kept us occupied for a while, producing many birds, but often it took a while to see well, or even at all, some of the birds rapidly moving between the branches and leaves high up. Species such as **African Emerald Cuckoo**, **Speckled** and **Yellow-throated Tinkerbirds**, **Yellow-billed Barbet**, **Brown-eared** and **Yellow-crested Woodpeckers**, **Chocolate-backed Kingfisher** (with thanks to another birding group who had located the bird), **African Shrike-flycatcher**, **Western Oriole**, **Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher**, **Little Grey**, **Yellow-whiskered Honeyguide**, and **Spotted Greenbuls**, **Lemon-bellied Crombec**, **Chestnut-capped Flycatcher**, **Green Hylia**, **Uganda Woodland Warbler**, **Black-throated** and **Buff-throated Apalises**, **Olive-green Camaroptera**, **Rufous-crowned Eremomela**, **Fraser's Rufous Thrush**, **Fraser's Forest Flycatcher**, and **Grey-throated Tit-Flycatcher** all eventually showed well. One of the area's big targets is **Ituri Batis**, and we had heard the bird calling a few times without managing to see it before we finally got a lucky and found one right above us. Numbers of **Sabine's** and **Cassin's Spinetails** raced up and down over a clearing in the forest. Just as things were winding down and we were getting ready to call it, a last spell of birding produced some excellent birds and saw us walking away with great views of **African Dwarf Kingfisher**, **Fire-crested Alethe**, and **Red-headed Bluebill**! Mammals weren't regularly seen throughout the day, but we were able to add both **Blue Monkey** and the handsome **Red-tailed Monkey** to our list.

We made our way back to Masindi, and with a bit of daylight still remaining, Mike and I headed out to bird some of the nearby agricultural lands, while Gabi opted for some rest. We had an incredibly productive late afternoon, finding some open water in a small stream and watching a plethora of birds coming down to drink. In the hour or so we birded here we recorded over 60 species. Highlights were **Black-billed Wood Dove**, **Cardinal Woodpecker**, **Red-headed Lovebird**, **Tropical Boubou**, **Moustached Grass Warbler**, **African Yellow Warbler**, **White-chinned Prinia**, **Yellow-breasted Apalis**, **Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat**, **Purple-banded** and **Variable Sunbirds**, eight weaver species including **Baglafecht**, **Spectacled**, and **Black-necked Weavers**, **Black Bishop**, **Yellow-mantled Marsh**, and **Red-collared Widowbirds**, **Bar-breasted Firefinch**, **Magpie Mannikin**, **Yellow-throated Longclaw**, and our best bird, **Brown Twinspot** – we were watching the small patch of open water and enjoying the antics of the

mannikins hopping in and out, when a larger, browner bird appeared and joined them, resplendent with spots on its belly revealing its true identity! We were also trying for Grey-headed Oliveback, but it eluded us again. Eventually we had to tear ourselves away, rounding up a fantastic day that saw us record over 130 species.



*A pair of the sought-after **White-thighed Hornbills** on the Royal Mile*

Day 4, 4th July 2018. Transfer to Murchison Falls

We had another quick attempt for Grey-headed Oliveback on the outskirts of Masindi, but, try as we might, we just couldn't find any. We had to make do with **Blue-headed Coucal**, **Black Cuckoo**, **Black-crowned Tchagra**, **African Blue Flycatcher**, **Brown Babbler**, and **Purple Starling** before we continued onwards, finally arriving at the gate of Murchison Falls National Park. We stopped off in the Kaniyo Pabidi area to have a quick attempt at the localized Puvul's Illadopsis. Although we were unsuccessful on this front, we did enjoy other species, such as **Tambourine Dove**, **Blue Malkoha**, **Red-chested Cuckoo**, **White-thighed Hornbill**, **Spotted Greenbul**, **Green Crombec**, and **Green Hylia**, while **Afep Pigeon** called away in the far distance. En route to the actual falls our only notable sighting was a pair of **Abyssinian Ground Hornbills** we bumped into on the track, from where they quickly flew away, leaving us wanting more. The falls were spectacular and provided us with a good respite from the heat and humidity. Some birds present here included a number of pairs of **Rock Pratincoles** and a fly-by of **Brown Snake Eagle**. We eventually tore ourselves away and continued to our camp at the Paraa crossing. After checking in we had a bit of time to rest before heading on an afternoon birding session in the surrounding area. It started slowly, but with some great birds – we found ourselves walking alongside a drainage line and investigated some incredibly shy and rapidly-moving birds, eventually managing to see them for long enough to confirm them as the scarce **Dusky Babbler** – a great bird to begin with! We soon afterwards encountered a pair of noisy **Red-winged Grey Warblers** that also proved skittish. The end of the school day saw the birding temporarily halted as the throngs passed by, all quite inquisitive as to what we were doing. The birding picked up again as we continued, and we

found **Vinaceous** and **Black-billed Wood Doves**, **White-browed Coucal**, **Nubian Woodpecker**, **Brubru**, **Croaking Cisticola**, the scarce **Yellow-bellied Hyliota**, **Rüppell's** and **Violet-backed Starlings**, **Ashy Flycatcher**, and **Sooty Chat**. All too soon we found ourselves enjoying the sunset over the Nile River before settling in for a good dinner.

Day 5, 5th July 2018. Birding Murchison Falls National Park

With much excitement at what lay ahead for us today we got going early on, and after crossing the Nile River we began exploring the northern part of this reserve. We slowly worked our way through the mosaic of open grasslands, palm-studded savanna, and acacia riverine thickets, enjoying a stunning morning filled with many birds and mammals. Progress was slow as we began working our way through the grasslands and the scenic palm-studded portions. Stately pairs of **Abyssinian Ground Hornbills** roamed the ground, together with large numbers of the strange **Piapiac**. Careful scanning also revealed well-camouflaged **Black-bellied Bustards** along with numbers of **Cisticolas** including **Short-winged** and **Croaking**, while noisy **Flappet Larks** displayed overhead. A faint call made its way to our ears, revealing **Fan-tailed Grassbird** (Broad-tailed Warbler), which we eventually managed to pick up in the sea of grass. **Crested Francolin**, **Red-necked Spurfowl**, and **Yellow-throated Longclaw** all frequented the road verge. We also did well to find a few pairs of both **Grey Kestrels** and **Red-necked Falcons** perched in the palms. Scattered bushes punctured the landscape and hosted a few different species, notably **Black-billed Wood Dove**, **Northern Crombec**, and **Silverbird**, along with the sought-after **Shelley's Sparrow** and **Speckle-fronted Weaver**. Gaudy **Northern Red Bishops** were never far away, and we also managed to track down the spectacular **Northern Carmine Bee-eater** – a highly-desired species. While enjoying a large flock of these birds we also casually picked up a **Lion** head peeking up above the tall grass – we had had word that a pride had been seen in the area recently and had worked the surroundings for a while, without luck until now. The long grass kept the pride hidden for the most part, but they approached closely and ended up crossing the road right in front of us, giving us great views. We also noted a large number of cubs in the group, which is always exciting to see! All too soon they melted back into the grass, though, and we pressed on towards the denser acacia thickets bordering the Nile. A great many other mammals were seen in these more open areas, including vast herds of bovines. The bulk of the numbers went to **Uganda Kob**, **Lelwel Hartebeest**, **African Buffalo**, and **Defassa Waterbuck**, while smaller numbers of **Oribi**, **Rothschild's Giraffe**, and **Common Warthog** were present. We also managed to eke out **Banded Mongoose** and **Bushbuck**. This area was incredibly birdy, revealing **Wahlberg's Eagle**, **Mourning Collared Dove**, **African Green Pigeon**, **Senegal Coucal**, **Grey-headed Kingfisher**, **Swallow-tailed Bee-eater**, **Black-billed Barbet**, **African Grey Woodpecker**, **Spotted Palm Thrush**, and **Vitelline Masked Weaver**, among others. We took a break along the banks of the White Nile and had a steady stream of birds keep us distracted from resting, with highlights going to **White-faced Whistling Duck**, **Squacco Heron**, **Great and Intermediate Egrets**, **Senegal Thick-knee**, **Spur-winged Lapwing**, and **African Jacana**. We soon were on our way again, with time rapidly running out before we had to return for our afternoon boat trip. It took a bit of effort to find the localized **Black-headed Lapwing**, but we managed to locate a few birds just as we were about to give up. The last sightings of interest before we returned were mainly raptors, namely **White-backed**, **Rüppell's**, and **Lappet-faced Vultures**, **Bateleur**, and **Martial Eagle**, but **Banded Martin** was also seen. On the mammalian side we also found another one of our wanted species on the return trip, the rare and localized **Patas Monkey**, which is unique in that it frequents grasslands.

Boat trips are always great, and this one was no exception. We slowly made our way upriver to the base of Murchison Falls, which we had seen from the top the previous day, before making our way back. We had lots of good sightings with **Saddle-billed** and **Marabou Storks**, **Striated Goliath**, and **Purple Herons**, **Hamerkop**, **African Harrier-Hawk**, **African Fish Eagle**, **Black Crake**, **Rock Pratincole**, **Pied** and **Malachite Kingfishers**, a number of the gorgeous **Red-throated Bee-eaters**, and **Marsh Tchagra**. A few herds of **African Elephants** were also seen frequenting the river.

After the boat ride we took it easy around the lodge for a while before heading out for a late-afternoon session, which would turn into somewhat of a night drive. The birding was pretty good, but the many Tsetse flies were our biggest challenge, barely allowing us to settle in a spot for a second. Highlights of our afternoon birding were **Horus Swift**, **Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird**, **Spot-flanked Barbet**, **Orange-breasted Bushshrike**, **Buff-bellied Warbler**, **Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver**, and **Bar-breasted Firefinch**. As it started to get dark, we settled into position, and, as if right on cue, a glorious male **Pennant-winged Nightjar** floated over us, giving us spectacular views! Whoever has seen this species will know just how exceptional a bird it is and that it is nothing but a privilege to experience it! An **African Scops Owl** soon piped up, but otherwise our quick night drive was quiet until we got back to camp, where a large **Hippopotamus** was walking among the safari tents. We slept easily after another great day with more than 130 birds and nearly 20 mammals.



Glorious Northern Carmine Bee-eaters were one of many highlights today.

Day 6, 6th July 2018. Transfer from Murchison Falls to Kibale National Park

With a very long drive ahead of us we started early in the morning, sadly making our way out of this great park toward the equally famous Kibale National Park near Fort Portal. Our first birding stop was along the Butiaba Escarpment, where we spent a short while walking the many paths going up and along the escarpment. The birding was good, and we got most of our main targets, namely **Western Black-headed Batis**, **Foxy Cisticola**, **Western Violet-backed Sunbird**, **White-**

rumped Seed eater, and **Cinnamon-breasted Bunting**. Other species seen included **African Cuckoo-Hawk**, **Brown Snake** and **Long-crested Eagles**, **Namaqua Dove**, **Jacobin Cuckoo**, **Swallow-tailed Bee-eater**, **Meyer's Parrot**, **Whistling Cisticola**, **Buff-bellied Warbler**, **Silverbird**, **Black-rumped Waxbill**, **Village Indigobird**, and **Brimstone Canary**. Then we got back into the van for the remainder of the long drive. With a lunch stop en route we eventually reached the northern outskirts of Kibale National Park and stopped for a quick spell of birding. Despite the brief nature of it we were rewarded with numbers of **Sabine's Spinetails** floating overhead, along with **Grey-throated Barbet**, **Lühder's Bushshrike**, **Slender-billed Greenbul**, and **Blue-throated Brown Sunbird**, while an **African Black Duck** paddled in a small stream. The surrounding trees were fruiting and hosted a wealth of monkeys, namely **Blue Monkey**, **Guereza** (Black-and-white Colobus), and **Grey-cheeked Mangabey**. We pressed on to complete the remainder of the journey, and while passing through the main track of forest we ran into a small herd of the rare **African Forest Elephants**. We watched them for a short time, while they moved off the road, before continuing, arriving at our comfortable guest house on the outskirts of the forest, where we enjoyed a fantastic dinner after a long, tiring day.

Day 7, 7th July 2018. Birding Kibale National Park

Today was one of our most highly anticipated days of the tour, as it would feature Chimpanzee trekking along with hopefully another of the main bird targets, Green-breasted Pitta. We had an early start into the forest, meeting up with our park ranger before heading out. We would try for the pitta for most of the morning before transferring our attention to the Chimpanzees. We had some bad news about recent groups all missing the pitta, as the birds were just quiet and not yet displaying, which was rather odd as they are normally well into their breeding time by now. Alas, we tried long and hard throughout the morning but also had to walk away empty-handed on this front. The forest was generally quiet and made for tough birding, but we eked out **African Emerald Cuckoo**, **Grey-throated** and **Hairy-breasted Barbets**, **Thick-billed Honeyguide**, **African Shrike-flycatcher**, **Honeyguide Greenbul**, **White-tailed Ant Thrush**, and our birding highlight, excellent views of the difficult **Brown-chested Alethe**! We also got our first glimpse of **Chimpanzees**, enjoying a female and her young one feeding on some fruits high up in the canopy. We could hear the main group of **Chimpanzees** in the distance every once in a while, and eventually we began our trekking. This was a great experience, as we could follow a part of the group for some distance deep into the forest and simply relish our time with them, as the members went about their daily business of grooming and feeding, along with walking in between us on a few occasions. This great experience was better than we had hoped for and left us feeling completely fulfilled. During our time here we also managed to add **L'Hoest's Monkey** and **Oustalet's Red Colobus** to our rapidly growing primate list. Following a quick midday break we resumed our birding, focusing on the forest and forest edge, with local guide Roger. The large and bulky **Great Blue Turaco** showed well, while its cousin, **Black-billed Turaco**, refused to show itself, just calling at regular intervals. Another bird taunting us was **Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo**, and, try as we might, we just couldn't put our eyes onto this secretive bird. We did, however, enjoy **Blue-throated Roller**, the spectacular **Shining-blue Kingfisher**, **Yellow-spotted Barbet**, **Plain Greenbul**, **Green Crombec**, and **Grey-headed Nigrita**, along with **Blue-throated Brown** and **Superb Sunbirds**. A vocal **Western Nicator** played hide-and-seek and showed well for a few moments, while a nearby stream hosted **Cassin's Flycatcher** and **Mountain Wagtail**. We enjoyed another great meal while reliving our great time with the chimps!



*We were treated to some quality time with one of the great apes, **Chimpanzee**.*

Day 8, 8th July 2018. Transfer from Kibale to Queen Elizabeth National Park

With not too much distance to cover today we had the morning available for birding around Kibale. We began by birding on the outskirts of our lodge in a nearby remnant patch of forest. This was excellent, and we were treated to some great birding, enjoying **Buff-spotted Woodpecker**, the highly-prized **Jameson's Wattle-eye**, **Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher**, **Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher**, **Yellow-whiskered Greenbul**, **Grey-capped Warbler**, and the shy and furtive **Brown Illadopsis**, along with **Grey-chinned**, **Bronzy**, and **Olive-bellied Sunbirds**, among others. We also finally managed to get views of a male **African Emerald Cuckoo**. After breakfast we gathered our things and resumed our birding along the forest edge. We had another good birding session, finding the incredibly beautiful and prized **Black Bee-eater**, **Brown-eared**, **Yellow-crested**, and **African Grey Woodpeckers**, and **Red-headed Malimbe**, while the best bird went to a flyover **Cassin's Hawk-Eagle** – an uncommon and difficult-to-locate bird.

We enjoyed lunch en route before arriving at Queen Elizabeth National Park in the midafternoon. We birded on our way into our comfortable lodge, which was scenically located on the edge of the Kazinga Channel, and after checking in took a short break. Some of the highlights were **Martial Eagle**, **Temminck's Courser**, **Senegal Lapwing**, **Greater Swamp Warbler**, **Croaking Cisticola**, **Red-chested Sunbird**, and **White-winged Widowbird**, while numerous **Yellow-billed Oxpeckers** sat atop large mammals. We headed out for a late-afternoon walk in the surroundings, searching for primarily Forest Hog, but the birds were never far away and kept us entertained throughout. Species seen were **White-backed Vulture**, **Spur-winged Lapwing**, **Ring-necked Dove**, **Olive Bee-eater**, **Black-headed Gonolek**, **Northern Black Flycatcher**, **Pin-tailed Whydah**, **Red-billed Firefinch**, and **Green-winged Pytilia**. Sadly, our main target, the Forest Hog, went unseen.

Day 9, 9th July 2018. Birding Queen Elizabeth National Park

With a full day at our disposal to explore Queen Elizabeth National Park we began early, heading for the eastern sector of the park, where we spent the morning. Comprising almost entirely open grasslands, punctured with patches of bush and euphorbias, along with a saline crater lake, we slowly crisscrossed this area. We had a good morning, enjoying a wealth of birds along with a good supporting cast of mammals. We did well, finding one of our main targets, **African Crane**, before we even entered the park and enjoyed great views as it slowly walked across the road. A few recently-burned patches were productive and hosted more **African Cranes** along with **Red-necked Spurfowl**, **Senegal, Crowned**, and **African Wattled Lapwings**, **Temminck's Courser**, **Collared Pratincoles**, **Red-capped Lark**, numbers of **Quailfinch**, **African** and **Plain-backed Pipits**, and **Yellow-throated Longclaw**. The surrounding patches of longer grass also eventually produced **Common Buttonquail**, another target, along with many **Rufous-naped Larks** and the highly-prized **White-tailed Lark**. We had heard this lark calling and had eventually sighted it up in the air some distance away, leaving us wanting more. Fortunately we didn't have to wait too long before we had our next chance, finding a bird right up-close next to the road, allowing us much better views! These plains also hosted large herds of **Defassa Waterbuck**, **Uganda Kob**, and **African Buffalo**. The scrubby areas hosted a different suite of birds, notably numbers of **White-browed Coucal**, **Little Bee-eater**, **Spot-flanked Barbet**, **African Grey Woodpecker**, **Chinspot Batis**, **Black-crowned Tchagra**, **Grey-capped Warbler**, **Black-lored Babbler**, **Red-billed Quelea**, and **Brimstone Canary**. A crater lake held numbers of **Lesser Flamingos** along with **Black-winged Stilt** and a huge roost of **Gull-billed Terns**. We also followed up on Lions, having been seen earlier in the morning, but despite canvassing the area we were unable to locate them. During the late morning a few raptors were beginning to move around, and we managed to pick up **Palm-nut**, **White-backed**, and **White-headed Vultures**, **Western Banded Snake Eagle**, and **Bateleur**, while a few **Grey Kestrels** adorned roadside telephone wires.

We headed back to the lodge for a quick break during the midday period before we would head out for our boat cruise along the channel. We rested for a short while and then went for a walk around, searching for Forest Hog again. We drew a blank once more but did enjoy a few confiding **African Blue Flycatchers**, **Brown-throated Wattle-eyes**, and **Swamp Flycatchers**. While we were busy with our lunch one of the lodge staff quickly came running and called us, as he'd found some **Forest Hogs**. Delighted, we quickly followed him and had good views of a small group of them moving around the edge of some of the thickets.

Before long we were boarding a boat to have a cruise along the Kazinga Channel. During the warm afternoon many mammals were gathered around the water's edge, and we reveled in numbers of **African Buffalo**, **Defassa Waterbuck**, and **African Elephant**, while smaller numbers of **Uganda Kob** and **Bushbuck** were also present and many groups of **Hippopotamuses** in the water. Waterbirds seen included **Yellow-billed Stork**, **African Sacred Ibis**, **African Spoonbill**, large numbers of both **Pink-backed** and **Great White Pelicans**, **Reed** and **White-breasted Cormorants**, **African Fish Eagle**, **Black Crane**, **Water Thick-knee**, **Kittlitz's Plover**, **Marsh Sandpiper**, **Common Greenshank**, **Grey-headed** and **Lesser Black-backed Gulls**, **Gull-billed** and **White-winged Terns**, and our main target, **African Skimmer** – which were also present in large numbers. A wonderful way to end the day!



Part of a large flock of African Skimmers, with a few Gull-billed Terns present as well

Day 10, 10th July 2018. Transfer from Queen Elizabeth National Park to Buhoma

With a relatively long transfer ahead of us, heading to Buhoma in the Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, we headed out early, as we wanted to take it easy through the southern Ishasha section. The morning was very birdy as we worked our way through the combination of open woodland, denser stands of thickets, some forested habitats, and more open grassy/rank areas. Raptors were quite well represented, and we found **African Harrier-Hawk**, **Martial** and **Wahlberg's Eagles**, and **Gabar Goshawk**. Our first **Bare-faced Go-away-bird** was a welcome sight, while we also enjoyed **Common Scimitarbill**, **Green-backed Woodpecker**, **Red-shouldered Cuckooshrike**, **Black-headed Oriole**, and **Trilling Cisticola** nearby. The various rank, grassy areas held species such as **Marsh Tchagra**, **Piapiac**, **Red-breasted Swallow**, **Stout Cisticola**, **Grey Tit-Flycatcher**, **Northern Black Flycatcher**, **Sooty Chat**, and numbers of **Common**, **Black-rumped**, and **Crimson-rumped Waxbills**, all intermingled in large groups feeding on the road verge. The forested areas provided **Crested Guinea fowl**, **Blue Malkoha**, **Klaas's Cuckoo**, and **Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher**. We enjoyed our lunch in the presence of **Levaillant's Cuckoo**, **Brown-crowned Tchagra**, **Black-lored Babbler**, and **Buff-bellied Warbler**.

The travel was a bit quicker than expected due to recent grading of the road, and we arrived in the early afternoon at our comfortable accommodation, very scenically situated on the outskirts of the forest proper. After checking in we headed out on a walk with Christopher, who would be our local guide for the next few days in Bwindi. We got off to a flying start, enjoying species such as **Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater**, **Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird**, **Petit's Cuckooshrike**, **Mackinnon's Shrike**, **Chubb's Cisticola**, **Grey-throated Tit-Flycatcher**, **Brown-capped Weaver**, and **Thick-billed Seed-eater** early on. **Grey-winged Robin-Chat** frustrated us by remaining out of sight, as did **Bocage's Bushshrike**. There were a few fairly habituated **L'Hoest's Monkeys** around, which showed well and gave us a few great photographic opportunities. The clouds had been building up during the course of the afternoon, and it was only a matter of time

before they opened up, and since we found ourselves at our furthest point on the trail, we felt the drops and made a hasty retreat. A staff member was waiting for us and drove us back to our accommodation, meaning that we arrived back still pretty dry. After a pretty intense storm the rain abated after around 30 minutes, and Mike and I and headed back out for some more birding. The activity was excellent, and we barely covered any ground. We managed to get our eyes on **Bocage's** and **Lühder's Bushshrikes**, **White-tailed Blue**, **African Dusky**, and **White-eyed Slaty Flycatchers**, and the prized **Black-billed Weaver**, while a flowering tree was bustling with **Sunbirds** and we noted **Collared**, **Green-headed**, **Blue-throated Brown**, **Green-throated**, **Bronzy**, and **Northern Double-collared** in a short amount of time. All too quickly the day ran out, and we prepared ourselves for a full day in the forest tomorrow.

Day 11, 11th July 2018. Birding Buhoma and surroundings

An exciting day lay ahead of us, as we would explore the famous Buhoma trail, searching for a host of the area's many specials. We got going early on, and our first birding stop in a bout of activity produced many great birds, including **Western Tinkerbird**, **Willcocks's Honeyguide**, **Pink-footed Puffback**, **Mountain Oriole**, and **Cabanis's Greenbul**, **Red-capped** and **Grey-winged Robin-Chats**, the latter showing exceptionally well this time, while its cousin **Blue-shouldered Robin-Chat** proved elusive, calling from deep within the thickets. A little further on we ran into another bird-party, comprising more exciting species such as **Black Bee-eater**, **Cassin's Honeybird**, **Elliot's Woodpecker**, **African Shrike-flycatcher**, **Dusky Tit**, **Ansorge's** and **Red-tailed Greenbuls**, **Grey Apalis**, **Black-faced Rufous Warbler**, and **Mountain Wagtail**. Then the birding became more difficult but we soldiered on, finding other species such as **Western Bronze-naped Pigeon**, **Grey-throated Barbet**, the prized and localized **Chapin's Flycatcher**, and a young **Red-throated Alethe** that showed in the open for a short while. Our lunch break was interrupted first by a stunning **Bar-tailed Trogon** perched close by and then by an **Abyssinian Ground Thrush** that started calling from a short distance away. Try as we might, though, the ground thrush managed to elude us at every turn, and we just couldn't lay eyes on the bird. We soon progressed into the area for one of our chief targets, the Albertine Rift endemic **Neumann's Warbler**. The birding remained tough, and we struggled to find any birds at all, but the few we did were all top class – the strange **Kakamega Greenbul** and another Albertine Rift endemic, **Blue-headed Sunbird**. But after a while the activity changed, and we finally found ourselves in the midst of another bout of action. A **Black-billed Turaco** bounded above us, while the feisty **Red-faced Woodland Warblers** and **White-browed Crombecs** moved rapidly through the midstorey, and the low undergrowth hosted a small party of **Mountain Illadopsis** that left us wanting more. Eventually our main quarry piped up – **Neumann's Warbler**. We listened to the bird calling for a little while as we got closer, and then Christopher called us to look at it perched in the undergrowth. It didn't stay still for too long, however, before slinking out of view. We tried for it for a while longer but never managed any more views. A very curious **Equatorial Akalat**, however, came in close to see what the commotion was about, which was a welcome sight. A loud clap of thunder brought the rain with it, but with a small shelter nearby we were well protected, although its bark seemed worse than its bite, as hardly any rain fell and we were back out in a few minutes. A calling **Oberländer's Ground Thrush** drew our attention, but like its cousin went by unseen despite our best efforts. But a not-so-shy **White-bellied Robin-Chat** was incredibly confiding and gave us excellent and close-up views. Later in the afternoon we gradually began making our way back and managed to pick up a few more species, such as **Yellow-spotted Barbet**, **Olive-green Camaroptera**, **White-tailed Ant Thrush**, **Waller's** and **Stuhlmann's Starlings**, and in a quick-

moving party a surprise **Jameson's Antpecker**! We tried again for another calling **Abyssinian Ground Thrush** but were once more left frustrated. Our last notable sighting before arriving back at our accommodation was the highly-desired **Red-throated Alethe**. We had seen a young bird earlier in the day but had not been entirely satisfied; so we were well pleased to come across this adult bird quietly feeding on the verge of the track, giving us some glorious views. We didn't find many mammals today but did enjoy the shy **Black-fronted Duiker** and **Red-legged Sun Squirrel** as new additions. Battered and tired we called it a day, barely able to contain our excitement for our Gorilla trekking tomorrow!



*The scarce **White-bellied Robin-Chat** posed magnificently for us.*

Day 12, 12th July 2018. Gorilla trekking and birding Buhoma

Up early, brimming from ear to ear with excitement, we headed to the office, where we were assigned the group of **Eastern (Mountain) Gorillas** we would trek – the M, or Mubare, group. After a fairly strenuous hike to get up onto the plateau we didn't have to wait long before we found ourselves face-to-face with these gentle giants. We had a spectacular experience watching these magnificent great apes go about their business, and our time with them went by very quickly. The group had fairly recently been taken over by a rival male, and as a result all the young gorillas had been killed – very sad to hear but a part of the life that happens in the wild.

Following our lunch break we made our way back down from the plateau and had some free time in the early afternoon. We took a walk to a nearby stream, where we cooled off for a bit before heading to the Buhoma village, where we took in a few of the social projects going on. Our late afternoon was capped off with another walk in the forest at the edge of the village. Today wasn't a birding day, but we did manage a few species here and there, noting **Black-billed Turaco**, **Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater**, **Pink-footed Puffback**, **Toro Olive Greenbul**, **Waller's** and **Narrow-tailed Starlings**, **Baglaffeht Weaver**, and **Golden-breasted Bunting**.



*Trekking **Eastern Gorillas** was another major highlight, and we had fantastic encounters.*

Day 13, 13th July 2018. Transfer from Buhoma to Ruhija via The Neck

Another exciting destination awaited us, this time at the higher-altitudinal Ruhija, still part of the Bwindi Impenetrable National Park. This area is one of the more famous birding zones in the country, home to many of the Albertine Rift endemics, including arguably the most prized one, Grauer's (African Green) Broadbill. The transfer from Buhoma is not very far but takes some time due to the slow, winding mountain roads, and our first birding stop was roughly halfway between, in the zone called 'The Neck'. We spent a few hours walking along the road leading through this tract of forest and enjoyed some excellent birding. Bouts of birds would come by in groups, and flowering trees also proved productive. Glorious **Black Bee-eaters** showed well in many places, we finally managed to track down **Many-colored Bushshrike** high in the canopy, noisy **Black-faced Prinias** bounded around in tangles, and a flowering tree produced **Tiny Sunbird** and a spectacular group of **Oriole Finches** as our main highlights. Other species seen included **Scarce Swift**, **Elliot's Woodpecker**, **Mountain Oriole**, **Black-throated Apalis**, **Black-faced Rufous Warbler**, a **Scaly-breasted Illadopsis** surprisingly parading around in the open, **Grey-throated Tit-Flycatcher**, **Dusky-blue Flycatcher**, **Equatorial Akalat**, **Grey-headed**, **Grey-chinned**, **Little Green**, and **Green-throated Sunbirds**, **Black-billed** and **Brown-capped Weavers**, **Black-and-white Mannikin**, and **Streaky Seedeater**. We gradually worked our way higher up until we reached Ruhija. We took it easy around our rather basic accommodation for a short while before heading out for some afternoon birding on the outskirts of the village. We had a sublime afternoon's birding and racked up many of our remaining Albertine Rift endemics. The moment that we climbed out of the car we were almost blown over with species such as **Rwenzori Batis**, **White-browed Crombec**, **Red-faced Woodland Warbler**, **Rwenzori** and **Mountain Masked Apalises**, **Rwenzori Hill Babbler**, and **Yellow-crowned Canary** all hopping around in the surrounding trees. We didn't make it very far before we noticed a bushshrike moving through, and after a few anxious moments losing it in a thicket it came out into the open, revealing the rare **Lagden's Bushshrike**. We didn't get too far, with lots of activity almost keeping us rooted to the

spot, and other species we saw included **Tullberg's Woodpecker**, **Lühder's Bushshrike**, **Grey Cuckooshrike**, **White-tailed Blue Flycatcher**, **Yellow-streaked Greenbul**, **Chubb's Cisticola**, **Chestnut-throated Apalis**, and **Northern Double-collared Sunbird**. The air held **Horus Swift** along with numbers of **Black Saw-wing**. Our last sighting before we called it a day was a stunning **Regal Sunbird**.



*The Albertine Rift endemic **Rwenzori Batis** gave us good views!*

Day 14, 14th July 2018. Birding Mubwindi Swamp and surroundings

One of the most highly-anticipated birding days greeted us as we would trek down to the Mubwindi Swamp. Known as a difficult and strenuous hike, Gabi opted out and rather spent a day exploring the village and surroundings. Together with Christopher, our local guide, we began the walk and basically tried to get down to the bottom as quickly as possible, as most of our birding would be down there. This is also *the* site for **Grauer's Broadbill**, and although other groups had been successful recently, the adults and chicks had left the nest and were moving around quite a bit, which made locating this small, inconspicuous, and practically inaudible bird that much more difficult. We headed to the nest area and began our search from there. We spent a few hours working the area, waiting and listening, and just as we were about to give up (time was moving on, and we needed to try for a few of the other species as well) Christopher mentioned he'd thought he'd heard them and quickly disappeared into the valley to investigate. A short while later we got a call, to get down, since he'd found them! We did eventually manage to find him in the forest, only to hear that he'd momentarily lost the birds. Disappointed we gave the massive tree where he'd last seen them all our attention, and this paid off, because we soon located them again moving around quite a bit but higher up. We spent a little while with them, and despite the distance from them we had some good views of this highly-prized bird! Brimming from ear to ear we were able to continue. **Archer's Ground Robin** played hide-and-seek, but a bit of patience rewarded us with good, close views of this skulker, while prominent **Yellow-eyed Black Flycatchers** were a bit easier to see. The swamp at the bottom produced the sought-after **Grauer's Swamp Warbler** quite

easily, and other species seen around here included **Bar-tailed Trogon**, **White-headed Wood Hoopoe** (eventually—a species we very much had wanted to find), **Yellow-billed Barbet**, **White-bellied Crested Flycatcher**, **Olive-breasted Greenbul**, **Carruthers's Cisticola**, **White-starred Robin**, and the stunning **Blue-headed Sunbird**. The difficult and rare **Grey-chested Babbler** sadly remained as a heard only. We reluctantly began making our way back up the valley, taking a longer, but far easier path back. Most of the activity had died down, but we ran into a patch that was just bustling with life. A **Petit's Cuckooshrike** that hopped into view started things off and was soon followed by a vocal **Stripe-breasted Tit**, which led us scrambling to see everything that was suddenly moving around. Some of the 'better' birds seen were **Rwenzori Batis**, **Mountain Sooty Boubou**, **Mountain Oriole**, **Black-faced Prinia**, **Rwenzori**, **Mountain Masked**, **Black-throated**, and **Chestnut-throated Apalises**, **Waller's Starling**, **Abyssinian Thrush**, **Yellow-eyed Black Flycatcher**, **Regal Sunbird**, **Strange Weaver**, and a few **Dusky Crimsonwings** that left us wanting a bit more. **Doherty's Bushshrike** and **Grauer's Warbler** called incessantly but to our dismay refused to show. As we pushed on some incredible screams from a short distance away brought us to a halt –**Eastern Gorillas!** We were kept back and waited for the fighting animals to finish before being the given the clear to continue. The screaming soon ceased, followed by chest thumping, which went on for a little bit before becoming a bit more distant; this finally allowed us to safely pass. Although we didn't get to see the gorillas, this was a great experience. Our afternoon was spent birding the outskirts of Ruhija, and we enjoyed **Augur Buzzard**, **Great Blue Turaco**, **Grey-throated Barbet**, **Mountain Yellow Warbler**, nesting **Stripe-breasted Tits**, and a few more calling **Grauer's Warbler** that we just couldn't entice into view. Pretty tired after a good, but long day we returned to our accommodation for another great meal. Aside from the nearly close encounter with the gorillas we also managed to find **Black-fronted Duiker** once more, along with **Böhm's Bush Squirrel** and **Ruwenzori Sun Squirrel** as new additions to the mammal list.



The stunning Bar-tailed Trogon

Day 15, 15th July 2018. Transfer from Ruhija to Lake Mburo National Park

Up at predawn, I headed off with Bosco to try for Montane (Rwenzori) Nightjar, while Mike and Gabi opted for a more civilized start time. After hearing a number of birds calling throughout the dark of morning we eventually got our eyes onto one **Montane Nightjar** on the track in front of us, which gave us great views! Following breakfast we packed and then began the long drive to Lake Mburo National Park, where we had planned an afternoon/evening drive. While we made our way out of Bwindi Impenetrable National Park we made a few birding stops, which gave us **Handsome Francolin, African Goshawk, African Olive Pigeon, Western Tinkerbird, Stripe-breasted Tit, Slender-billed Starling, White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher**, and our final Albertine Rift endemic, **Purple-breasted Sunbird**. After we exited the forest we made good progress to Lake Mburo and arrived in the midafternoon. We checked into our comfortable lodge, gathered a few things, and headed out on our afternoon drive, which would be followed with our night drive. We had a great afternoon exploring the various habitats of the park from open, grassy plains to extensive acacia woodland stands. The open areas hosted numbers of **Crested Francolin, Red-necked Spurfowl**, and **Senegal and African Wattled Lapwings**, while the wooded areas provided **Bare-faced Go-away-bird, Blue-naped Mousebird, Broad-billed Roller, Green Wood Hoopoe, Meyer's Parrot, Orange-breasted Bushshrike, Grey Penduline Tit, Marico Sunbird, Red-headed and Lesser Masked Weavers, Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu**, and the snazzy **Black-faced Waxbill**. Raptors were represented by **Lappet-faced Vulture** along with **Brown and Black-chested Snake Eagles**. We also did extremely well with mammals, enjoying a small family of the tiny **Common Dwarf Mongoose** along with some new bovids such as **Impala, Common Duiker**, the scarce **Common Eland**, and the hoped-for **Topi**. We also saw our first **Plains Zebras** while reacquainting ourselves with a few mammals we'd already seen a few times, such as **Defassa Waterbuck, African Buffalo, Giraffe, Tantalus Monkey**, and **Olive Baboon**. We transitioned straight to our night drive, and a flyby **Rufous-bellied Heron** got it off to a good start. A stop in a valley with a wide view quickly produced a few of the stunning **Pennant-winged Nightjars** as they floated like butterflies over the skyline – always a real delight to see! The night drive was on the slow side with not much activity, but we did manage to eke out **Verreaux's Eagle-Owl** and **Swamp Nightjar**, while **African Scops Owl** and **Freckled and Black-shouldered Nightjars** were heard only. Mammals also were on the slow side and restricted to **Large-spotted Genet, Bunyoro Rabbit**, and **Thick-tailed Greater Galago**.

Day 16, 16th July 2018. Birding Lake Mburo National Park

With a full day available to explore the park we met up with local guide Moses to try for some of the park's specials. We spent the morning birding around the park before taking a break over the midday period, followed by an afternoon boat cruise on Lake Mburo. Our morning was pretty good and saw us enjoying **Bare-faced Go-away-bird, Lilac-breasted and Broad-billed Rollers, Striped and African Pygmy Kingfishers, Common Scimitarbill, White-headed Barbet, African Grey Hornbill, Nubian Woodpecker, Red-headed Lovebird, Black-crowned Tchagra, Black Cuckooshrike, African Paradise Flycatcher, White-winged Black Tit, Red-faced Crombec, Trilling** and the sought-after **Long-tailed Cisticolas, Black-lored Babbler, Greater Blue-eared Starling, Pale Flycatcher, Green-winged Pytilia, Plain-backed Pipit, Black-throated Canary**, and the ever-stunning **Golden-breasted Bunting**. Two of our big targets, **Brown-chested Lapwing** and **Red-headed Barbet**, were nowhere to be seen, however, despite our trying for a long while for both these birds. We enjoyed a similar suite of mammals to what we had had the previous day. After a good break over the midday period we made our way

down to the lake for a boat trip. We cruised slowly up and down the shoreline, enjoying species such as **Striated Heron**, **African Fish Eagle**, and **Water Thick-knee**, along with **Malachite**, **Giant**, and **Pied Kingfishers**, before we eventually came across our main target here, **African Finfoot**. The shy bird is nowhere common and is sought-after everywhere in its range, and Lake Mburo must surely be one of the most reliable places for this bird. We managed to find a few more during the course of our boat trip. Another highlight was a nesting pair of **White-backed Night Herons**, complete with two large chicks – another rare and difficult-to-find species. We ended the day with views of both **Black-shouldered** and **Freckled Nightjars** and **Spotted Hyaenas** calling into the night from our lodge as we settled in for our last dinner together.



*They shy **African Finfoot** in the open for a few moments*

Day 17, 17th July 2018. Transfer to Entebbe and departure

The last day of our tour saw us traveling from Lake Mburo National Park back to Entebbe in time for Mike and Gabi's mid-afternoon flight home. We started early, and the park greeted us with a glorious daylight **Verreaux's Eagle-Owl** on the way out. We made good progress back to Entebbe, finding a surprise **Shoebill** en-route, with other notable species being **Pink-backed Pelican**, **Intermediate Egret**, **Grey Crowned Crane**, **African Pied Hornbill**, **Common Kestrel**, and **Mosque Swallow**. We made it to the airport in time for Mike and Gabi's flight back and said our goodbyes after a wonderful trip.

Many thanks to Mike and Gabi for the many laughs and the good times that were had, and to Bosco for keeping us safe at every turn and ensuring we had a great trip! We did exceptionally well on both the bird and mammal fronts with too many highlights to mention them all, but the sheer number of birds was fantastic, and both our Chimpanzee and Gorilla trekking was far more than we could have hoped for, leaving us wanting more! Uganda, "the Pearl of Africa", certainly didn't disappoint...



Mike, Dylan and Gabi at Murchison Falls National Park

Bird List - Following IOC 8.2

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: CE = Critically Endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, NT = Near Threatened. Albertine Rift endemics are bolded.

Common name	Scientific name
Ducks, Geese, Swans (Anatidae)	
White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>
Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>
African Black Duck	<i>Anas sparsa</i>
Yellow-billed Duck	<i>Anas undulata</i>
Guineafowl (Numididae)	
Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>
Crested Guineafowl	<i>Guttera pucherani</i>
Pheasants and Allies (Phasianidae)	

Common name	Scientific name
Crested Francolin	<i>Dendroperdix sephaena</i>
Handsome Francolin	<i>Pternistis nobilis</i>
Red-necked Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis afer</i>
Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>
Flamingos (Phoenicopteridae)	
Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>
Storks (Ciconiidae)	
Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>
African Openbill	<i>Anastomus lamelligerus</i>
Woolly-necked Stork - VU	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>
Saddle-billed Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis</i>
Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumenifer</i>
Ibises, Spoonbills (Threskiornithidae)	
African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>
Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>
Hérons, Bitterns (Ardeidae)	
White-backed Night Heron	<i>Gorsachius leuconotus</i>
Black-crowned Night Heron (H)	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>
Rufous-bellied Heron	<i>Ardeola rufiventris</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>
Intermediate Egret	<i>Ardea intermedia</i>
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
Hamerkop (Scopidae)	
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Shoebill (Balaenicipitidae)	
Shoebill - VU	<i>Balaeniceps rex</i>
Pelicans (Pelecanidae)	
Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>
Pink-backed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus rufescens</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>
Kites, Hawks, Eagles (Accipitridae)	
Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
African Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>
Palm-nut Vulture	<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>
African Cuckoo-Hawk	<i>Aviceda cuculoides</i>
White-backed Vulture - CR	<i>Gyps africanus</i>
Rüppell's Vulture - CR	<i>Gyps rueppelli</i>
White-headed Vulture - CR	<i>Trigonocephalus occipitalis</i>
Lappet-faced Vulture - EN	<i>Torgos tracheliotos</i>
Black-chested Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus pectoralis</i>
Brown Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>
Western Banded Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinerascens</i>
Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>
Crowned Eagle (H)	<i>Stephanoaetus coronatus</i>
Martial Eagle - VU	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>
Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>
Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus wahlbergi</i>
Cassin's Hawk-Eagle	<i>Aquila africana</i>
Lizard Buzzard	<i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i>
Gabar Goshawk	<i>Micronisus gabar</i>
Dark Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax metabates</i>
African Goshawk	<i>Accipiter tachiro</i>

Common name	Scientific name
African Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>
Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>
African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>
Augur Buzzard	<i>Buteo augur</i>
Bustards (Otididae)	
Black-bellied Bustard	<i>Lissotis melanogaster</i>
Flufftails (Sarothruridae)	
White-spotted Flufftail	<i>Sarothrura pulchra</i>
Buff-spotted Flufftail (H)	<i>Sarothrura elegans</i>
Finfoots (Heliornithidae)	
African Finfoot	<i>Podica senegalensis</i>
Rails, Crakes and Coots (Rallidae)	
African Crake	<i>Crex egregia</i>
Black Crake	<i>Amaurornis flavirostra</i>
African Swamphe	<i>Porphyrio madagascariensis</i>
Cranes (Gruidae)	
Grey Crowned Crane - EN	<i>Balearica regulorum</i>
Buttonquail (Turnicidae)	
Common Buttonquail	<i>Turnix sylvaticus</i>
Stone-curlews, Thick-knees (Burhinidae)	
Senegal Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus senegalensis</i>
Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>
Spotted Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus capensis</i>
Stilts, Avocets (Recurvirostridae)	
Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
Plovers (Charadriidae)	
Long-toed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus crassirostris</i>
Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Black-headed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus tectus</i>
Senegal Lapwing	<i>Vanellus lugubris</i>
Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>
African Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>
Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>
Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>
Jacanas (Jacanidae)	
African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>
Sandpipers, Snipes (Scolopacidae)	
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
Coursers, Pratincoles (Glareolidae)	
Temminck's Courser	<i>Cursorius temminckii</i>
Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>
Rock Pratincole	<i>Glareola nuchalis</i>
Gulls, Terns and Skimmers (Laridae)	
African Skimmer	<i>Rynchops flavirostris</i>
Grey-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>
White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>
Pigeons, Doves (Columbidae)	
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>
Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>
Afep Pigeon (H)	<i>Columba unicincta</i>
African Olive Pigeon	<i>Columba arquatrix</i>
Western Bronze-naped Pigeon	<i>Columba iriditorques</i>
Mourning Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>
Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>
Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
Vinaceous Dove	<i>Streptopelia vinacea</i>
Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>
Black-billed Wood Dove	<i>Turtur abyssinicus</i>
Blue-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur afer</i>
Tambourine Dove	<i>Turtur tympanistria</i>
Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>
African Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calvus</i>
Turacos (Musophagidae)	
Great Blue Turaco	<i>Corythaeola cristata</i>
Black-billed Turaco	<i>Tauraco schuettii</i>
White-crested Turaco	<i>Tauraco leucolophus</i>
Ross's Turaco	<i>Musophaga rossae</i>
Bare-faced Go-away-bird	<i>Corythaixoides personatus</i>
Eastern Plantain-eater	<i>Crinifer zonurus</i>
Cuckoos (Cuculidae)	
Senegal Coucal	<i>Centropus senegalensis</i>
Blue-headed Coucal	<i>Centropus monachus</i>
White-browed Coucal	<i>Centropus superciliosus</i>
Blue Malkoha	<i>Ceuthmochares aereus</i>
Levaillant's Cuckoo	<i>Clamator levaillantii</i>
Jacobin Cuckoo	<i>Clamator jacobinus</i>
Diederik Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>
Klaas's Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>
African Emerald Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx cupreus</i>
Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo (H)	<i>Cercococcyx mechowi</i>
Black Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus clamosus</i>
Red-chested Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>
Owls (Strigidae)	
African Scops Owl (H)	<i>Otus senegalensis</i>
Verreaux's Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo lacteus</i>
Nightjars (Caprimulgidae)	
Black-shouldered Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus nigriscapularis</i>
Montane Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus poliocephalus</i>
Swamp Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus natalensis</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Freckled Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus tristigma</i>
Square-tailed Nightjar (H)	<i>Caprimulgus fossii</i>
Pennant-winged Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus vexillarius</i>
Swifts (Apodidae)	
Scarce Swift	<i>Schoutedenapus myoptilus</i>
Sabine's Spinetail	<i>Rhaphidura sabini</i>
Cassin's Spinetail	<i>Neafrapus cassini</i>
African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>
Horus Swift	<i>Apus horus</i>
White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>
Mousebirds (Coliidae)	
Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>
Blue-naped Mousebird	<i>Urocolius macrourus</i>
Trogons (Trogonidae)	
Narina Trogon (H)	<i>Apaloderma narina</i>
Bar-tailed Trogon	<i>Apaloderma vittatum</i>
Rollers (Coraciidae)	
Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudatus</i>
Blue-throated Roller	<i>Eurystomus gularis</i>
Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>
Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)	
Chocolate-backed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon badia</i>
Grey-headed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon leucocephala</i>
Striped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>
Blue-breasted Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon malimbica</i>
Woodland Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon senegalensis</i>
African Dwarf Kingfisher	<i>Ispidina lecontei</i>
African Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Ispidina picta</i>
Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>
Shining-blue Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo quadribachys</i>
Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>
Bee-eaters (Meropidae)	
Black Bee-eater	<i>Merops gularis</i>
Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>
Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>
Blue-breasted Bee-eater	<i>Merops variegatus</i>
Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater	<i>Merops oreobates</i>
Red-throated Bee-eater	<i>Merops bulocki</i>
Olive Bee-eater	<i>Merops superciliosus</i>
Northern Carmine Bee-eater	<i>Merops nubicus</i>
Hoopoes (Upupidae)	
African Hoopoe (H)	<i>Upupa africana</i>
Wood Hoopoes (Phoeniculidae)	
White-headed Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus bollei</i>
Green Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>
Common Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>
Ground Hornbills (Bucorvidae)	
Abyssinian Ground Hornbill	<i>Bucorvus abyssinicus</i>
Hornbills (Bucerotidae)	
Crowned Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros alboterminatus</i>
African Pied Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros fasciatus</i>
African Grey Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros nasutus</i>
White-thighed Hornbill	<i>Bycanistes albotibialis</i>
Black-and-white-casqued Hornbill	<i>Bycanistes subcylindricus</i>
African Barbets (Lybiidae)	
Grey-throated Barbet	<i>Gymnobucco bonapartei</i>
Speckled Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus scolopaceus</i>
Western Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus coryphaea</i>
Yellow-throated Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus subsulphureus</i>
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus bilineatus</i>
Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Yellow-spotted Barbet	<i>Buccanodon duchaillui</i>
Hairy-breasted Barbet	<i>Tricholaema hirsuta</i>
Spot-flanked Barbet	<i>Tricholaema lacrymosa</i>
White-headed Barbet	<i>Lybius leucocephalus</i>
Black-billed Barbet	<i>Lybius guifsobalito</i>
Double-toothed Barbet	<i>Lybius bidentatus</i>
Yellow-billed Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus purpuratus</i>
Honeyguides (Indicatoridae)	
Cassin's Honeybird	<i>Prodotiscus insignis</i>
Willcocks's Honeyguide	<i>Indicator willcocksi</i>
Thick-billed Honeyguide	<i>Indicator conirostris</i>
Scaly-throated Honeyguide (H)	<i>Indicator variegatus</i>
Woodpeckers (Picidae)	
Nubian Woodpecker	<i>Campethera nubica</i>
Green-backed Woodpecker	<i>Campethera cailliautii</i>
Tullberg's Woodpecker	<i>Campethera tullbergi</i>
Buff-spotted Woodpecker	<i>Campethera nivosa</i>
Brown-eared Woodpecker	<i>Campethera caroli</i>
Yellow-crested Woodpecker	<i>Chloropicus xantholophus</i>
Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>
Elliot's Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos elliotii</i>
African Grey Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos goertae</i>
Caracaras, Falcons (Falconidae)	
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Grey Kestrel	<i>Falco ardosiaceus</i>
Red-necked Falcon	<i>Falco chicquera</i>
African & New World Parrots (Psittacidae)	
Grey Parrot - EN	<i>Psittacus erithacus</i>
Meyer's Parrot	<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i>
Old World Parrots (Psittaculidae)	
Red-headed Lovebird	<i>Agapornis pullarius</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Broadbills (Eurylaimidae)	
Grauer's Broadbill - VU	<i>Pseudocalyptomena graueri</i>
Wattle-eyes, Batises (Platysteiridae)	
Rwenzori Batis	<i>Batis diops</i>
Chinspot Batis	<i>Batis molitor</i>
Western Black-headed Batis	<i>Batis erlangeri</i>
Ituri Batis	<i>Batis ituriensis</i>
Chestnut Wattle-eye	<i>Platysteira castanea</i>
Brown-throated Wattle-eye	<i>Platysteira cyanea</i>
Jameson's Wattle-eye	<i>Platysteira jamesoni</i>
Bushshrikes (Malaconotidae)	
Grey-headed Bushshrike (H)	<i>Malaconotus blanchoti</i>
Lagden's Bushshrike	<i>Malaconotus lagdeni</i>
Many-colored Bushshrike	<i>Chlorophoneus multicolor</i>
Bocage's Bushshrike	<i>Chlorophoneus bocagei</i>
Orange-breasted Bushshrike	<i>Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus</i>
Doherty's Bushshrike (H)	<i>Telophorus dohertyi</i>
Marsh Tchagra	<i>Bocagia minuta</i>
Brown-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>
Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegalus</i>
Pink-footed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus angolensis</i>
Northern Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus gambensis</i>
Mountain Sooty Boubou	<i>Laniarius poensis</i>
Lühder's Bushshrike	<i>Laniarius luehderi</i>
Tropical Boubou	<i>Laniarius major</i>
Papyrus Gonolek	<i>Laniarius mufumbiri</i>
Black-headed Gonolek	<i>Laniarius erythrogaster</i>
Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>
Vangas and Allies (Vangidae)	
African Shrike-flycatcher	<i>Megabyas flammulatus</i>
Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher	<i>Bias musicus</i>
Cuckooshrikes (Campephagidae)	
Grey Cuckooshrike	<i>Cebilepyris caesius</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Black Cuckooshrike	<i>Campephaga flava</i>
Red-shouldered Cuckooshrike	<i>Campephaga phoenicea</i>
Petit's Cuckooshrike	<i>Campephaga petiti</i>
Shrikes (Laniidae)	
Mackinnon's Shrike	<i>Lanius mackinnoni</i>
Grey-backed Fiscal	<i>Lanius excubitoroides</i>
Northern Fiscal	<i>Lanius humeralis</i>
Figbirds, Orioles & Turnagra (Oriolidae)	
African Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus auratus</i>
Western Oriole	<i>Oriolus brachyrynchus</i>
Mountain Oriole	<i>Oriolus percivali</i>
Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus larvatus</i>
Drongos (Dicruridae)	
Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>
Monarchs (Monarchidae)	
Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone rufiventer</i>
African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>
Crows, Jays (Corvidae)	
Piapiac	<i>Ptilostomus afer</i>
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>
White-necked Raven	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>
Fairy Flycatchers (Stenostiridae)	
African Blue Flycatcher	<i>Elminia longicauda</i>
White-tailed Blue Flycatcher	<i>Elminia albicauda</i>
White-bellied Crested Flycatcher	<i>Elminia albiventris</i>
Tits, Chickadees (Paridae)	
White-winged Black Tit	<i>Melaniparus leucomelas</i>
Dusky Tit	<i>Melaniparus funereus</i>
Stripe-breasted Tit	<i>Melaniparus fasciiventer</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Penduline Tits (Remizidae)	
Grey Penduline Tit	<i>Anthoscopus caroli</i>
Nicators (Nicatoridae)	
Western Nicator	<i>Nicator chloris</i>
Larks (Alaudidae)	
Rufous-naped Lark	<i>Mirafra africana</i>
Flappet Lark	<i>Mirafra rufocinnamomea</i>
White-tailed Lark	<i>Mirafra albicauda</i>
Red-capped Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>
Bulbuls (Pycnonotidae)	
Dark-capped Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus tricolor</i>
Kakamega Greenbul	<i>Arizelocichla kakamegae</i>
Olive-breasted Greenbul	<i>Arizelocichla kikuyuensis</i>
Slender-billed Greenbul	<i>Stelgidillas gracilirostris</i>
Little Greenbul	<i>Eurillas virens</i>
Little Grey Greenbul	<i>Eurillas gracilis</i>
Ansorge's Greenbul	<i>Eurillas ansorgei</i>
Plain Greenbul	<i>Eurillas curvirostris</i>
Yellow-whiskered Greenbul	<i>Eurillas latirostris</i>
Honeyguide Greenbul	<i>Baeopogon indicator</i>
Spotted Greenbul	<i>Ixonotus guttatus</i>
Yellow-throated Leaflove	<i>Atimastillas flavicollis</i>
Toro Olive Greenbul	<i>Phyllastrephus hypochloris</i>
Cabanis's Greenbul	<i>Phyllastrephus cabanisi</i>
Yellow-streaked Greenbul	<i>Phyllastrephus flavostriatus</i>
Red-tailed Bristlebill (H)	<i>Bleda syndactylus</i>
Red-tailed Greenbul	<i>Criniger calurus</i>
Swallows, Martins (Hirundinidae)	
White-headed Saw-wing	<i>Psalidoprocne albiceps</i>
Black Saw-wing	<i>Psalidoprocne pristoptera</i>
Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>
Banded Martin	<i>Riparia cincta</i>
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Angolan Swallow	<i>Hirundo angolensis</i>
Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>
Blue Swallow - VU	<i>Hirundo atrocaerulea</i>
Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>
Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>
Red-breasted Swallow	<i>Cecropis semirufa</i>
Mosque Swallow	<i>Cecropis senegalensis</i>
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>
Crombecs, African Warblers (Macrosphenidae)	
Moustached Grass Warbler	<i>Melocichla mentalis</i>
Yellow Longbill (H)	<i>Macrosphenus flavicans</i>
Grey Longbill	<i>Macrosphenus concolor</i>
Northern Crombec	<i>Sylvietta brachyura</i>
Red-faced Crombec	<i>Sylvietta whytii</i>
Green Crombec	<i>Sylvietta virens</i>
Lemon-bellied Crombec	<i>Sylvietta denti</i>
White-browed Crombec	<i>Sylvietta leucophrys</i>
Cettia Bush Warblers and Allies (Cettiidae)	
Neumann's Warbler	<i>Urosphena neumanni</i>
Yellow Flycatchers (Erythrocercidae)	
Chestnut-capped Flycatcher	<i>Erythrocercus mccallii</i>
Graueria, Hylia, Pholidornis (Incertae Sedis)	
Grauer's Warbler (H)	<i>Graueria vittata</i>
Green Hylia	<i>Hylia prasina</i>
Leaf Warblers and Allies (Phylloscopidae)	
Red-faced Woodland Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus laetus</i>
Uganda Woodland Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus budongoensis</i>
Reed Warblers and Allies (Acrocephalidae)	
Greater Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus rufescens</i>
African Yellow Warbler	<i>Iduna natalensis</i>
Mountain Yellow Warbler	<i>Iduna similis</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Grassbirds and Allies (Locustellidae)	
Fan-tailed Grassbird	<i>Catriscus brevirostris</i>
Evergreen Forest Warbler (H)	<i>Bradypterus lopezi</i>
White-winged Swamp Warbler (H)	<i>Bradypterus carpalis</i>
Grauer's Swamp Warbler - EN	<i>Bradypterus graueri</i>
Cisticolas and Allies (Cisticolidae)	
Red-faced Cisticola	<i>Cisticola erythrops</i>
Singing Cisticola	<i>Cisticola cantans</i>
Whistling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola lateralis</i>
Trilling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola woosnami</i>
Chubb's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chubbi</i>
Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>
Winding Cisticola	<i>Cisticola marginatus</i>
Carruthers's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola carruthersi</i>
Stout Cisticola	<i>Cisticola robustus</i>
Croaking Cisticola	<i>Cisticola natalensis</i>
Short-winged Cisticola	<i>Cisticola brachypterus</i>
Foxy Cisticola	<i>Cisticola troglodytes</i>
Long-tailed Cisticola	<i>Cisticola angusticauda</i>
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>
Black-faced Prinia	<i>Prinia melanops</i>
White-chinned Prinia	<i>Schistolais leucopogon</i>
Rwenzori Apalis	<i>Oreolais ruwenzorii</i>
Red-winged Grey Warbler	<i>Drymocichla incana</i>
Buff-bellied Warbler	<i>Phyllolais pulchella</i>
Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flavida</i>
Mountain Masked Apalis	<i>Apalis personata</i>
Black-throated Apalis	<i>Apalis jacksoni</i>
Chestnut-throated Apalis	<i>Apalis porphyrolaema</i>
Buff-throated Apalis	<i>Apalis rufogularis</i>
Grey Apalis	<i>Apalis cinerea</i>
Grey-capped Warbler	<i>Eminia lepida</i>
Grey-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brevicaudata</i>
Yellow-browed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera superciliaris</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Olive-green Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera chloronota</i>
Black-faced Rufous Warbler	<i>Bathmocercus rufus</i>
Rufous-crowned Eremomela	<i>Eremomela badiceps</i>
Fulvettas, Ground Babblers (Pellorneidae)	
Scaly-breasted Illadopsis	<i>Illadopsis albipectus</i>
Brown Illadopsis	<i>Illadopsis fulvescens</i>
Mountain Illadopsis	<i>Illadopsis pyrrhoptera</i>
Laughingthrushes and Allies (Leiothrichidae)	
Black-lored Babbler	<i>Turdoides sharpei</i>
Dusky Babbler	<i>Turdoides tenebrosa</i>
Brown Babbler	<i>Turdoides plebejus</i>
Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>
Sylviid Babblers (Sylviidae)	
Rwenzori Hill Babbler	<i>Pseudoalcippe atriceps</i>
White-eyes (Zosteropidae)	
African Yellow White-eye	<i>Zosterops senegalensis</i>
Dapple-throat and Allies (Modulatricidae)	
Grey-chested Babbler (H)	<i>Kakamega poliothorax</i>
Hyliotas (Hylotiidae)	
Yellow-bellied Hyliota	<i>Hyliota flavigaster</i>
Starlings, Rhabdornis (Sturnidae)	
Purple-headed Starling	<i>Hyllopsar purpureiceps</i>
Greater Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>
Lesser Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chloropterus</i>
Splendid Starling	<i>Lamprotornis splendidus</i>
Purple Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpureus</i>
Rüppell's Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpureoptera</i>
Violet-backed Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>
Slender-billed Starling	<i>Onychognathus tenuirostris</i>
Waller's Starling	<i>Onychognathus walleri</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Stuhlmann's Starling	<i>Poeoptera stuhlmanni</i>
Narrow-tailed Starling	<i>Poeoptera lugubris</i>
Oxpeckers (Buphagidae)	
Yellow-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus africanus</i>
Thrushes (Turdidae)	
Red-tailed Ant Thrush (H)	<i>Neocossyphus rufus</i>
White-tailed Ant Thrush	<i>Neocossyphus poensis</i>
Fraser's Rufous Thrush	<i>Stizorhina fraseri</i>
Abyssinian Ground Thrush (H)	<i>Geokichla piaggiae</i>
Oberländer's Ground Thrush (H)	<i>Geokichla oberlaenderi</i>
African Thrush	<i>Turdus pelios</i>
Abyssinian Thrush	<i>Turdus abyssinicus</i>
Chats, Old World Flycatchers (Muscicapidae)	
Fire-crested Alethe	<i>Alethe castanea</i>
Brown-backed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas hartlaubi</i>
White-browed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas leucophrys</i>
Fraser's Forest Flycatcher	<i>Fraseria ocreata</i>
Grey-throated Tit-Flycatcher	<i>Myioparus griseigularis</i>
Grey Tit-Flycatcher	<i>Myioparus plumbeus</i>
White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis fischeri</i>
Yellow-eyed Black Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis ardesiacus</i>
Northern Black Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis edolioides</i>
Pale Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis pallidus</i>
Silverbird	<i>Empidonax semipartitus</i>
Ashy Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa caerulescens</i>
Swamp Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa aquatica</i>
Cassin's Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa cassini</i>
Chapin's Flycatcher - VU	<i>Muscicapa lendu</i>
African Dusky Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa adusta</i>
Dusky-blue Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa comitata</i>
Sooty Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa infuscata</i>
Red-throated Alethe	<i>Chamaetylas poliophrys</i>
Brown-chested Alethe	<i>Chamaetylas poliocephala</i>
White-bellied Robin-Chat	<i>Cossyphicula roberti</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Archer's Ground Robin	<i>Cossypha archeri</i>
Grey-winged Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha polioptera</i>
Blue-shouldered Robin-Chat (H)	<i>Cossypha cyanocampter</i>
White-browed Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha heuglini</i>
Red-capped Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha natalensis</i>
Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha niveicapilla</i>
White-starred Robin	<i>Pogonocichla stellata</i>
Forest Robin	<i>Stiphornis erythrothorax</i>
Equatorial Akalat	<i>Sheppardia aequatorialis</i>
Spotted Palm Thrush	<i>Cichladusa guttata</i>
African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>
Sooty Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla nigra</i>
Sunbirds (Nectariniidae)	
Grey-headed Sunbird	<i>Deleornis axillaris</i>
Western Violet-backed Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes longuemarei</i>
Little Green Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes seimundi</i>
Grey-chinned Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes rectirostris</i>
Collared Sunbird	<i>Hedydipna collaris</i>
Green-headed Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra verticalis</i>
Blue-throated Brown Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra cyanolaema</i>
Blue-headed Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra alinae</i>
Olive Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra olivacea</i>
Green-throated Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra rubescens</i>
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>
Purple-breasted Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia purpureiventris</i>
Bronzy Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia kilimensis</i>
Olive-bellied Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris chloropygius</i>
Tiny Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris minullus</i>
Northern Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris reichenowi</i>
Regal Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris regius</i>
Beautiful Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris pulchellus</i>
Marico Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris mariquensis</i>
Red-chested Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris erythrocercus</i>
Purple-banded Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris bifasciatus</i>
Superb Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris superbus</i>
Variable Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris venustus</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Copper Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris cupreus</i>
Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches (Passeridae)	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Shelley's Sparrow	<i>Passer shelleyi</i>
Northern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>
Weavers, Widowbirds (Ploceidae)	
White-browed Sparrow-Weaver	<i>Plocepasser mahali</i>
Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver	<i>Plocepasser superciliosus</i>
Speckle-fronted Weaver	<i>Sporopipes frontalis</i>
Thick-billed Weaver	<i>Amblyospiza albifrons</i>
Baglafecht Weaver	<i>Ploceus baglafecht</i>
Slender-billed Weaver	<i>Ploceus pelzelni</i>
Spectacled Weaver	<i>Ploceus ocularis</i>
Black-necked Weaver	<i>Ploceus nigricollis</i>
Strange Weaver	<i>Ploceus alienus</i>
Black-billed Weaver	<i>Ploceus melanogaster</i>
Holub's Golden Weaver	<i>Ploceus xanthops</i>
Northern Brown-throated Weaver	<i>Ploceus castanops</i>
Lesser Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus intermedius</i>
Vitelline Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus vitellinus</i>
Village Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>
Vieillot's Black Weaver	<i>Ploceus nigerrimus</i>
Weyns's Weaver	<i>Ploceus weynsi</i>
Black-headed Weaver	<i>Ploceus melanocephalus</i>
Golden-backed Weaver	<i>Ploceus jacksoni</i>
Brown-capped Weaver	<i>Ploceus insignis</i>
Red-headed Malimbe	<i>Malimbus rubricollis</i>
Crested Malimbe	<i>Malimbus malimbicus</i>
Red-headed Weaver	<i>Anaplectes rubriceps</i>
Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>
Black Bishop	<i>Euplectes gierowii</i>
Black-winged Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes hordeaceus</i>
Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>
Northern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes franciscanus</i>
Yellow Bishop	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Fan-tailed Widowbird	<i>Euplectes axillaris</i>
Yellow-mantled Widowbird	<i>Euplectes macroura</i>
Marsh Widowbird	<i>Euplectes hartlaubi</i>
White-winged Widowbird	<i>Euplectes albonotatus</i>
Red-collared Widowbird	<i>Euplectes ardens</i>
Waxbills, Munias and Allies (Estrildidae)	
Jameson's Antpecker	<i>Parmoptila jamesoni</i>
White-breasted Nigrita	<i>Nigrita fusconotus</i>
Grey-headed Nigrita	<i>Nigrita canicapillus</i>
Green-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia melba</i>
Dusky Crimsonwing	<i>Cryptospiza jacksoni</i>
Red-headed Bluebill	<i>Spermophaga ruficapilla</i>
Brown Twinspot	<i>Clytospiza monteiri</i>
Black-bellied Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta rara</i>
Bar-breasted Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta rufopicta</i>
Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>
Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu	<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>
Crimson-rumped Waxbill	<i>Estrilda rhodopyga</i>
Black-rumped Waxbill	<i>Estrilda troglodytes</i>
Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>
Black-crowned Waxbill	<i>Estrilda nonnula</i>
Black-faced Waxbill	<i>Estrilda erythronotos</i>
Quailfinch	<i>Ortygospiza atricollis</i>
Bronze Mannikin	<i>Lonchura cucullata</i>
Black-and-white Mannikin	<i>Lonchura bicolor</i>
Magpie Mannikin	<i>Lonchura fringilloides</i>
Indigobirds, Whydahs (Viduidae)	
Village Indigobird	<i>Vidua chalybeata</i>
Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>
Wagtails, Pipits (Motacillidae)	
Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>
Mountain Wagtail	<i>Motacilla clara</i>
African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>
Yellow-throated Longclaw	<i>Macronyx croceus</i>

Common name	Scientific name
African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>
Plain-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus leucophrys</i>
Finches, Euphonias (Fringillidae)	
Oriole Finch	<i>Linurgus olivaceus</i>
White-rumped Seedeater	<i>Crithagra leucopygia</i>
Black-throated Canary	<i>Crithagra atrogularis</i>
Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Crithagra mozambica</i>
Brimstone Canary	<i>Crithagra sulphurata</i>
Thick-billed Seedeater	<i>Crithagra burtoni</i>
Streaky Seedeater	<i>Crithagra striolata</i>
Yellow-crowned Canary	<i>Serinus flavivertex</i>
Buntings (Emberizidae)	
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza tahapisi</i>
Golden-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>
Cabanis's Bunting	<i>Emberiza cabanisi</i>

Total seen	494
Total heard only	22
Total recorded	516

Mammal List

Common name	Scientific name
Cats (Felidae)	
Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>
Mongoose (Herpestidae)	
Common Dwarf Mongoose	<i>Helogale parvula</i>
Banded Mongoose	<i>Mungos mungo</i>
Hyaenas, Aardwolf (Hyaenidae)	
Spotted Hyaena (H)	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>
Genets, Binturong, Civets (Viverridae)	

Common name	Scientific name
Large-spotted Genet	<i>Genetta maculata</i>
Bovids (Bovidae)	
Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>
Hartebeest	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus</i>
Black-fronted Duiker	<i>Cephalophus nigrifrons</i>
Topi	<i>Damaliscus lunatus jimela</i>
Defassa Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus defassa</i>
Uganda Kob	<i>Kobus kob thomasi</i>
Oribi	<i>Ourebia ourebi</i>
Common Duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>
African Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>
Common Eland	<i>Tragelaphus oryx</i>
Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>
Giraffes, Okapis (Giraffidae)	
Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>
Hippopotamuses (Hippopotamidae)	
Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>
Hogs, Pigs (Suidae)	
Forest Hog	<i>Hylochoerus meinertzhageni</i>
Common Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>
False Vampire Bats (Megadermatidae)	
Yellow-winged Bat	<i>Lavia frons</i>
Old World Fruit Bats (Pteropodidae)	
African Straw-coloured Fruit-bat	<i>Eidolon helvum</i>
Rabbits, Hares (Leporidae)	
Bunyoro Rabbit	<i>Poelagus marjorita</i>
Horses, Asses, Zebras (Equidae)	
Plains Zebra	<i>Equus quagga</i>

Common name	Scientific name
Old World Monkeys (Cercopithecidae)	
L'Hoest's Monkey	<i>Allochrocebus lhoesti</i>
Red-tailed Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus ascanius</i>
Blue Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus mitis</i>
Tantalus Monkey	<i>Chlorocebus tantalus</i>
Guereza	<i>Colobus guereza</i>
Patas Monkey	<i>Erythrocebus patas</i>
Grey-cheeked Mangabey	<i>Lophocebus albigena</i>
Olive Baboon	<i>Papio anubis</i>
Oustalet's Red Colobus	<i>Piliocolobus oustaleti</i>
Bushbabies, Galagos (Galagidae)	
Thick-tailed Greater Galago	<i>Otolemur crassicaudatus</i>
Great Apes (Hominidae)	
Eastern Gorilla	<i>Gorilla beringei</i>
Chimpanzee	<i>Pan troglodytes</i>
Elephants (Elephantidae)	
African Elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>
African Forest Elephant	<i>Loxodonta cyclotis</i>
Squirrels, Chipmunks, Marmots, Prairie Dogs (Sciuridae)	
Gambian Sun Squirrel	<i>Heliosciurus gambianus</i>
Red-legged Sun Squirrel	<i>Heliosciurus rufobrachium</i>
Ruwenzori Sun Squirrel	<i>Heliosciurus ruwenzorii</i>
Boehm's Bush Squirrel	<i>Paraxerus boehmi</i>
Striped Ground Squirrel	<i>Xerus erythropus</i>

Total seen	42
Total heard	1
Total recorded	43