# **SOUTH AFRICA 2004**

12July KLM flight 547 from Amsterdam to Cape Town (arrival approx. 21.45). Car rental (Toyota Condor). Overnight stay in Leisure Bay (Cape Town).



13 July Until noon, we stayed in Leisure Bay, watching whales and sea birds. South (M6) to Kommetjie. Overnight stay at Camping Imhoff.

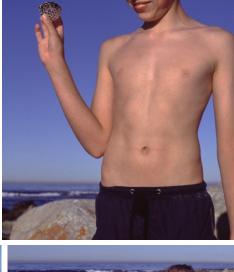


14 July Prebreakfast tour at the beach. Around 09.00 to Cape of Good Hope NR. Several mammal species, including Rock Dassie, Chacma Baboon and Blesbok. Also typical fynbos birds, including Orange-breasted Sunbird and Cape Sugerbird. Due to the beautiful weather and lack of wind, hardly any seabirds were seen.

At the end of the afternoon, a Giant Petrel and White-chinned Petrel were seen at











15 July We spend most of the day at Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden (next page, top). At the end of the day we visited the Strandfontein Sewage Works via the entrance at Zeekoevlei Road, where we saw large numbers of waterfowl, pelicans, etc.



16 July In the morning we visited the penguin colony at Boulders, Simon's Town. Afternoon visit to Buffelsbaai at the Cape of Good Hope NR. Briefly visited the beach at Kommetjie. Last night in Kommetjie.



17 July Morning walk at Sir Lowry's Pass from about 11.45 to 14.30 to search Cape Rockjumper.

Good views of Ground Woodpecker and Peregrine. Beautiful fynbos vegetation and fine weather. Visited Hermanus, where we had good views of whales. Drive to Bredasdorp, where we stayed at Annie's Cottage.



18 July Drive via gravel roads -part of the "farmland loop"- to De Hoop NR. Many birds and mammals, including Blue Crane, Stanley Bustard and Yellow Mongoose.





At The Hoop NR we visited the beach at Koppie Alleen, where we found a beach washed immature Southern Right Whale. At the end we visited De Mond. Brief views of a Caracal crossing the road. At the campsite Shrikes, Hoopoes, and a Cape Eagle Owl. Best bird of the day was Black Harrier.



19 July Very cold at sunrise. Walked the Klipspringer Trail to Potberg, part of De Hoop NR, to see Cape Vulture. Beautiful fynbos vegetation including Protea. Late afternoon drive near the campsite.

20 July Less cold due to overcast weather. Early visit of Tierhoek (De Hoop NR). Apart from Chacma Baboons and Eland, we had distant views of the first (Cape) Mountain Zebra. Via Suurbraak to Grootvadersbos (Boosmansbos Wilderness Area). In a small pond before Suurbraak, we saw White-backed Duck and Anhinga were seen. Beautiful camping, we were the only guests!



21 July Until approx. 15.00 hours we stayed in Grootvadersbos. First, Annelien and I walked in the forest. Good views of Olive Woodpecker, discovered by Annelien. When we returned to the campsite, we met two (local) birdwatchers. I joined them for a few hours and saw a.o. Klaas Cuckoo and Klipspringer. A small pond near Heidelberg contained Hamerkop and Malachite Kingfisher. Drive via Riversdale to Ladysmith near Karoo NR. Overnight stay in B & B (Mountain View).

22 July Drive to Vassalot (Tsitsikamma NR) through Karoo landscape, saw our first Secretary Bird, Pale Chanting Goshawk and Karoo Robin. Stayed at the campsite in Vassalot. Saw a Large-spotted Genet close to the campfire.







- 23 July We attempted to make a canoe trip but failed due to the low water level and a leaky canoe it Despite the brief stay at the river, we spotted African Finfoot! At the campsite also two Knysna Louries were found. We left around 13.00 hours and drove, via Avontuur, Uniondale, Willowmore en Aberdeen (large herds of Springbok at the Aberdeen Flats, but incredibly cold and strong winds), to Graaf Reinet. Before Uniondale, almost every cow or horse carried its own (fork-tailed) Drongo. Rainy afternoon.
- 24 July Many mammals seen before and in Mountain Zebra NP (Rooiplaat Loop). Weather cold and chilly. Overnight stay in Cradock ("Country Village").

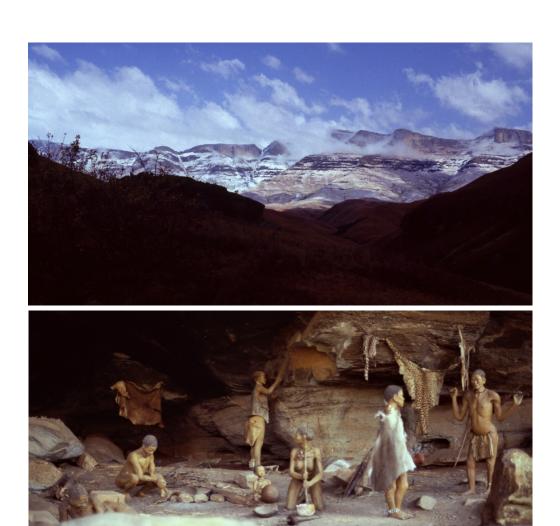


- 25 July Still cold, chilly and rain (morning). A traveling day: via Queenstown Aliwal North Hobhause Ladybrand to Clarens. Great views of a perched Lanner Falcon near Aliwal North. Overnight stay in 'Mont Rouge".
- 26 July Frost this morning! Via Golden Gate NP to Giant Castle NP. Brief visit in Golden Gate Highlands NP to Basotho, many birds including Wryneck! Beautiful landscape. Some fog. Overnight stay in Giant Castle.

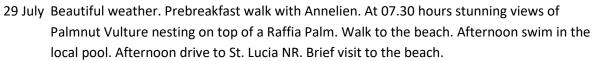


27 July Good views of a Gymnogene during a pre-breakfast tour. Snow had fallen on higher peaks during the night. After breakfast walk to the Main Caves. One circling Bearded Vulture.

Afternoon wind and rain. Overnight stay in Greytown.



28 July Drive via Stanger to Mtunzini (Umlalazi NR, KwaZulu-Natal (KZN). Pouring rain almost all day. Overnight stay at Mtunzini.





30 July Early swim (07.00 hours) in the Pacific Ocean. Brief walk at the campsite of Cape Vidal (Bluevervet Monkey, Dark-backed Weaver). Drive through St. Lucia. Beautiful views of a Longcrested Eagle. Especially after entering Swaziland, many birds and our first Giraffe. Stay at a Hlane Royal NP in a beautiful cottage. Because there was no electricity, oil-lamps were used to light the house.





31 July A very (birdwise) productive walk around the campsite and cottages in the Hlane Royal NP (Swasiland; SWA): two species of Wood Hoopoe and White-headed Vulture. Drove the Marabu trail within the park.



Early afternoon drive to Kruger NP. Many birds near the park entrance at Crocodile Bridge. Drive to Lower Sabie where we saw our first African Elephant and Square-lipped (White) Rhinoceros, etc. Overnight stay at Lower Sabie.

1 Aug Morning walk near the restaurant at Lower Sabie. Nice views over the river. Afternoon drive to Skkuza, where we bought some souvenirs. Some rain and a small thunderstorm in the evening.

2 Aug Early drive, started at 06.15 hours, to Mlandozidam. We saw a Leopard crossing the bridge near our campsite. At the dam itself, Openbill and two species of Jacana were present. Close views of a 'Bushsnake", a small green snake. Around noon we drove the same route because Lions had been spotted, but we dipped. In the afternoon the children had a swim in the

swimming pool. Close views of four lions during a late afternoon drive (S82). Below, various landscapes in Kruger NP.



- 3 Aug Early morning drive (06.00-09.00 hours) produced another two lions, and almost a collision with an elephant. At the river and campsite good views of Osprey, Yellow-billed Stork, etc. Afternoon drive to Satara, where we stayed overnight.
- 4 Aug During the morning drive we saw Kori Bustard and Giant Eagle-Owl. From noon to 15.00 we stayed at the campsite. Afternoon drive to the N'Waneti picnic site. Beautiful views of soaring White-headed and Hooded Vulture.
- 5 Aug After breakfast the children and I fed the campsite birds, including two species of Hornbill, etc. Drive via H1-4 and S127 (Ratelpan) to Letaba. Many animals along the S127. Beautiful views of flying Lappet-faced Vulture and a Wahlberg's Eagle. Around dusk, while sitting on the terrace of the restaurant and watching sunset, there were many Nightjars and hundreds of bats around. Evening tour produced Springhare and a family of Spotted Hyena. Stayed at the Letaba campsite.





- 6 Aug Pre-breakfast walk. Early morning drive over the S69. Still nice (warm and sunny) weather. Rest of the day we stayed at the campsite. Again watching sunset.
- 7 Aug After a brief night because both children fell ill, the whole family was present at 06.00 hours because it was our last full day in Kruger. Again drive over the S69, which produced a group of the much wanted Southern-ground Hornbill! Apparently Spring was in the air because

Red-headed Weaver started working on their nests. Drive to Mopani. Afternoon swim in the swimming pool. Packed our luggage in the evening.



# **BIRDS**

## **STRUTHIONIDAE**

**Ostrich** *Struthio camelus* - Common, but likely all of feral origin. One beautiful male in breeding plumage -orange bill, near Letaba may have been of wild origin.



**SPHENISCIDAE** 

**African (Jackass) Penguin** *Sphenicus demersus* - Common at Boulders, Simon's Town, July 16. Also ten birds, swimming in pairs, at Koppie Alleen, De Hoop NR.





## **PODICIPEDIAE**

**Little Grebe (Dabchick)** *Tachybaptus ruficollis* - Seen on seven days, most common, 1 000+ birds, at the Strandfontein Sewage Works near Muizenberg.

**Black-necked Grebe** *Podiceps nigricollis* – Over 100+ birds at the Strandfontein Sewage Works.

**Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus* – Two birds in Cape Town.

## DIOMEDEIDAE

**Black-browed Albatross** *Diomedea melanophris* - One bird at Cape Town, Cape Town.

**Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross** *Thalassarche carteri* – As previous species.

**PROCELLARIIDAE** 

**Southern Giant Petrel** *Macrenectes giganteus* - A single bird, most likely this species, flying close to the shore at Buffelsbay (False Bay) in the afternoon of July 14.

White-chinned Petrel Procellaria aequinoctialis – As previous species.

**Sooty Shearwater** *Puffinus griseus* - Seen at Cape Town, common.

**PELECANIDAE** 

**Great (Eastern) White Pelican** *Pelecanus onocrotalus* - Over 30 birds at the Strandfontein Sewage Works near Muizenberg.

**SULIDAE** 

Cape Gannet Morus capensis - Common at the Cape Peninsula.

**PHALACROCORACIDAE** 

**Cape Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax capensis* - Common at the Cape Peninsula.

**Crowned Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax coronatus* – Two birds seen at Cape Town.

Bank Cormorant Phalacrocorax neglectus – Two birds seen at Koppie Alleen (De Hoop NR).

**Reed Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax africanus* - Seen on five days, common.

White-breasted Cormorant Phalacrocorax lucidus – Common and seen on most days.

**ANHINGIDAE** 

**African Darter** *Anhinga rufa* - Seen on three days, well ween near Suurbraak.

ARDEIDAE

**Green-backed Heron** *Butorides striata* – Single birds at ponds and rivers in Kruger NP.

Cattle Egret Bubulcus ibis – Common and seen on most days.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta* - Seen in low numbers throughout the tour.

Intermediate Egret Egretta intermedia - One bird at Capte Town.

**Great Egret** Egretta alba - Seen on most days, common at De Mond (De Hoop NR).

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea* - Seen on most days in low numbers.

Purple Heron Ardea purpurea - Seen at the Strandfontein Sewage Works, Muizenberg.

**Goliath Heron** *Ardea goliath* - Seen in low numbers on five days, first seen at St. Lucia NP.

**Black-headed Heron** *Ardea melanocephala* - Seen on most days except in the North.

SCOPIDAE

Hamerkop Scopus umbretta - A single bird at Heidelberg, July 21. Low numbers in Kruger NP.

CICONIIDAE

**Saddle-billed Stork** *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis* – Seen almost daily in Kruger NP.



**Marabou Stork** *Leptoptilos crumeniferus* – Daily seen from July 30 onwards. A flock of 28 birds at Letaba on August 6.

Black Stork Ciconia nigra - A single bird soaring over Golden Gate Highlands NP.

**Yellow-billed Stork** *Mycteria ibis* – Low numbers in Kruger NP.

**African Woolly-necked Stork** *Ciconia microscelis* - Seen on four days, most common –over 30 birds-in Umlalazi NR. Split from Asian Woollyneck (African Woollyneck).



Open-billed Stork (African Openbill) Anastomus lamelligerus - Seen at Mlandozidam and Satara.

**Abdim's Stork** *Ciconia abdimii* - A single immature bird at Letaba.

#### **THRESKIONITHIDAE**

African Spoonbill Platalea alba – Low numbers seen on nine days, e.g. at De Mond, July 18.

(African) Sacred Ibis Threskiornis aethiopicus – Common except in Kruger NP.

**Hadeda Ibis** *Bostrychia hagedash* - Seen on most days.

**Southern Bald Ibis** *Geronticus calvus* – In total about 15 birds, including a group of seven near Giants Castle GR, August 27.

Glossy Ibis Plegadus falcinellus - Seen on three days, including six birds near Kommetjie.

## **PHOENICOPTHERIDAE**

**Greater Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus roseus* - Seen on two days, over 500 at Strandfontein and over 100 birds before Vassalot.



## **ANATIDAE**

White-faced Duck Dendrocygna viduata – About 20 at Lower Sabie.

White-backed Duck Thalassornis leuconotus - Great views of three birds near Suurbraak.

South African Shelduck Tadorna cana - Seen on two days, including 50+ at Strandfontein.

**Egyptian Goose** *Alopochen aegyptiaca* - Common.

**Spur-winged Goose** *Plectropterus gambensis* – A single bird seen at Strandfontein, flocks of 50-100 at De Mond, De Hoop NR.

**Red-billed Teal** *Anas erythrorhyncha* – Common, over 200 birds, at Strandfontein.

Southern Pochard Netta erythrophtalma - Seen on two days, over 500 birds at Strandfontein.

Maccoa Duck Oxyura maccoa - Over 100 birds at the Strandfontein Sewage Works.

**Cape Shoveler** *Anas smithii* - Seen on three days, incuding over 50 birds at Strandfontein.

Cape Teal Anas capensis - Seen on two days, over 500 birds at Strandfontein.

**African Black Duck** *Anas sparsa* - A single bird along the river at Lower Sabie.

Yellow-billed Duck Anas undulata - Seen on nine days, over 100 birds at Strandfontein.

Knob-billed Duck Sarkidiornis melanotus - Four females near Letaba.

Mallard Anas platyrhynchos (introduced) – Four birds seen at Strandfontein, few more in the south.

### **SAGITTARIIDAE**

**Secretary Bird** *Sagittarius serpentarius* – While driving to Vassalot, Tsitsikamma, we saw our first albeit distant Secretary Bird, July 22. Good views of two birds at the Golden Gate Highlands NP, July 26, and another two birds near Lower Sabie, August 2. Status Vulnerable (IUCN).



## **ACCIPITRIDAE**

(African) White-backed Vulture *Gyps africanus* – Six birds near Hlane Royal NP, July 30. Daily in Kruger NP. Status Critically endangered, <270,000 individuals (IUCN).



**Cape Vulture** *Gyps coprotheres* - At least 20 birds seen when walking the Klipspringer Trail at Potberg, De Hoop NR. Status Endangered, < 10,000 individuals (IUCN).

**Hooded Vulture** *Necrosyrtes monachus* - Seen at Lower Sabie and three birds near the N'Waneti picnic site, Satara. Critically endangered, total population <197,000 birds (IUCN).

White-headed Vulture *Trigonoceps occipentalis* – A single adult bird overhead in Hlane Royal NP. Four more in Kruger NP. Critically endangered, 2,500 – 10,000 individuals (IUCN).

**Lappet-faced Vulture** *Torgos tracheliotus* - Seen on at least four days in Kruger NP. Endangered (IUCN).

**Palm-nut Vulture** *Gypohierax angolensis* – Great views of adult birds building a nest on top of a Raffia palm. At least six to eight birds, a vegetarian vulture.

**Bearded Vulture** *Gypaetus barbatus* - Distant views of two birds, likely this species, at the Golden Gate Highlands NP. Beautiful (scope) views of a single adult flying above the Giants Castle GR.

Southern Banded Snake Eagle Circaetus fasciolatus - Good views at St. Lucia NP.

Black-breasted Snake Eagle Circaetus pectoralis - Nice views of three birds at St. Lucia NP.

Brown Snake Eagle Circaetus cinereus - Seen on 4 days, first bird at St. Lucia NP.

**Bateleur** *Terathopius ecaudatus* - Common, seen daily from July 29 onwards.

**Booted Eagle** Aquila pennatus - Single birds at St. Lucia and at Lower Sabie.

Long-crested Eagle Lophaetus occipitalis – An bird in a eucalyptus plantation near St. Lucia NP.

African Fish Eagle Haliaeetus vocifer - Common, seen in low numbers from July 28 onwards.

Martial Eagle Polemaetus bellicosus - Single birds at Lower Sabie.

Wahlberg's Eagle Aquila wahlbergi – An adult bird at Satara.

**Tawny Eagle** *Aquila rapax* – Several seen at Kruger NP.

Forest (Mountain) Buzzard Buteo trizonatus - Seen on five days, first at the Cape of Good Hope NR.

Jackal Buzzard Buteo rufofuscus - Common, first seen at the Cape of Good Hope NR.

Black-shouldered Kite Elanus caeruleus - Seen on most days, most common in Kruger NP.

Little Sparrowhawk Accipiter minullus - Singles in Kruger NP.

Gabar Goshawk Melierax gabar - Two birds seen at Lower Sabie.

**African Goshawk** *Accipiter tachiro* - Single birds on four days, first bird flying over Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden.

Pale Chanting Goshawk Melierax canorus - Seen on July 22-25.

Black Sparrowhawk Accipiter melanoleucus - Good views of a single bird at St. Lucia NP.

**Black Harrier** *Circus maurus* – South African endemic. A total of 17 birds seen on five days, best views near De Hoop NR. Endangered, total population < 1,000 birds (IUCN).

African Marsh Harrier Circus ranivorus – Three birds at Strandfontein.

**Gymnogyne** *Polyboroides typus* – Seen at Giants Castle GR and at Kruger NP.

Yellow-billed Kite Milvus parasitus - Brief views of a single bird at Potberg, De Hoop NR.

**PANDIONIDAE** 

Osprey Pandion haliaetus - A single adult at Satara.

**FALCONIDAE** 

**Rock Kestrel** Falco rupicollis - Seen almost daily from July 14-27.



**Lanner Falcon** *Falco biarmicus* - Beautiful scope views of a perched bird near Aliwal North, July 25. A second bird just when leaving the same town.

Peregrine Falco peregrinus - Nice views of a pair near Sir Lowry's Pass, a single on July 19.

**Lesser Kestrel** *Falco naumanni* – A single bird near Blyde Canyon.

**PHASIANIDAE** 

Common Quail Coturnix coturnix - Likely one bird calling at De Hoop NR.

Coqui Francolin Peliperdix coqui - Three birds at Lower Sabie.

**Crested Francolin** *Peliperdix sephaena* - Common at Lower Sabie and seen from July 31 until the end of the holiday.

**Red-necked Francolin** *Pternistes afer* - Brief views of three birds flying into cover at the campsite of Grootvadersbos.

**Natal Francolin** *Pternistes natalensis* - Seen oat Satara and Letaba, August 4-6.

**Swainson's Francolin** *Pternistes swainsonii* – Common in Kruger NP.

**Grey-winged Francolin** *Scleroptila africanus* - Two birds at De Hoop NR, July 20.

**Cape Francolin** *Pternistes capensis* - Common on the Cape Peninsula, regular at campsites. *Cape Francolin: below, left; Helmeted Guineafowl: below, right.* 





**Red-winged Francolin** *Scleroptila levaillantii* - Close views of two birds crossing the trail during the early morning walk at Giants Castle.

#### **NUMIDIDAE**

**Helmeted Guineafowl** *Numida meleagris* - Common. First seen at Cape Town.

Crested Guineafowl Guttera edouardi - Beautiful views of a group of 15 birds at St. Lucia NP.

## **RALLIDAE**

**Red-knobbed Coot** *Fulica cristata* - Common, seen on nine days.

**African Purple Gallinule** *Porphyrio madagascariensis* – Three seen at Strandfontein and a single bird near Vasselot.

**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus* - Seen on three days including Strandfontein.

Black Crake Amourornis flavirostris - Common along the main rivers in Kruger NP.

Striped Flufftail Sarothrura affinis - Heard in the fynbos at Buffelsbaai, Cape of Good Hope Reserve.

### **GRUIDAE**

**Blue Crane** *Anthropoides paradiseus* – Four birds before Bredasdorp, July 17, 200+ birds at the "farmland loop" near De Hoop NR, July 18.

#### HELIORNITHIDAE

**African Finfoot** *Podica senegalensis* - One of the best birds of the tour. During the (very wet) canoe trip at Vassalot, Tsitsikamma NP, I spotted one bird swimming along the edge of the river. July 23.

### **OTIDIDAE**

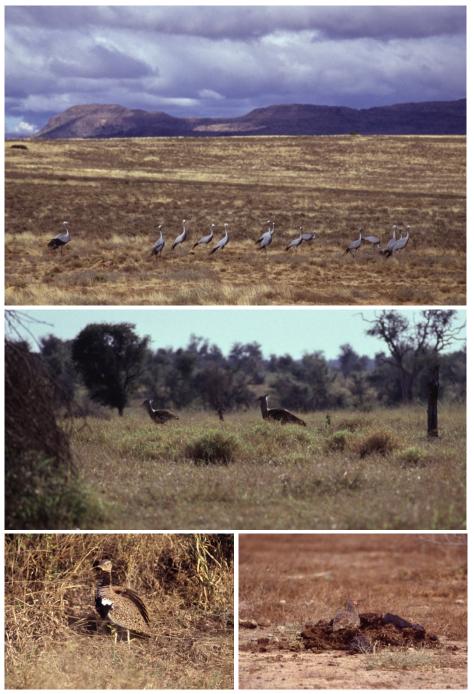
**Red-crested Korhaan** *Eupodotis ruficrista* - Stunning views of a female along the S69 near Letaba. Also seen on August 8.

**(Southern) White-bellied Korhaan** *Eupodotis barrowii* - Good views of two birds near Basotho (Golden Gate Highlands NP).

**Blue Korhaan** *Eupodotis caerulescens* - Beautiful views of about 12 birds, including displaying males, before Hobbause, July 25...

**Denham's (Stanley's) Bustard** *Neotis denhami* - Distant views of three birds at the "farmland loop" and a single bird on July 20.

**Kori Bustard** *Ardeotis kori* - Nice views of a male and female bird along the S100 near Satara.



Blue crane: top; Kori bustard: center; Red-crested Korhaan: bottom, left; Swainson's Francolin: bottom, right.

### **JACANIDAE**

African Jacana Actophilornis africanus - Seen in St. Lucia NP and Kruger NP.

**Lesser Jacana** *Microparra capensis* – Low numbers in Kruger NP.

#### HAEMATOPODIDAE

**African Black Oystercatcher** *Haematopus moquini* - Common at the Cape Peninsula, 1-10 birds/day. First seen on July 13 (Cape Town).

## **CHARACRIIDAE**

**Three-banded Plover** *Charadrius tricollaris* - Seen on six days. Common during a morning walk near the campsite of De Hoop NR.

Kittlitz's Plover Charadrius pecuarius - Seen on three days.

White-fronted Plover Charadrius marginatus – Widespread and common.

Blacksmith Plover Vanellus armatus - Seen at the Cape Peninsula and in Kruger NP.

**Crowned Plover** *Vanellus coronatus* - As previous species.



White-crowned Plover Vanellus albiceps - Distant views of two birds at Lower Sabie.

#### **SCOLOPACIDAE**

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia* - A single bird at the Strandfontein Sewage Works (Muizenberg) on July 15.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos* - Singles on July 31 and August 5.

Knot Calidris canutus - A single bird in De Hoop NR during the walk along the river (July 20).

**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea* - Nice views of 2 birds in De Hoop NR during the walk along the river (July 20).

Sanderling Calidris alba - A group of about 20+ birds at the beach of St. Lucia NP (July 29).

#### RECURVIROSTRIDAE

Pied Avocet Recurvirostra avosetta - Common at Strandfontein. Also seen on two other days.

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus* – Common.

BURHINIDAE

**Spotted Dikkop** *Burhinus capensis* - Heard near the cottage of Hlane Royal NP. Possibly twi birds seen when travelling to Johannesburg.

Water Dikkop Burhinus vermiculatus - Seen at Crocodile Bridge.

**GLAREOLIDAE** 

**Collared Pratincole** *Glareola pratincola* - Seen at Lower Sabie and at Letaba.

LARIDAE

Subantarctic Skua Catharacta antarctia - Seen at Cape Town, Buffelsbay and Tsitsikamma NP.

Hartlaub's Gull Larus hartlaubii - Common at the Cape Peninsula.

**Grey-headed Gull** *Larus cirrocephalus* – Common at the beach of St. Lucia NP.

Cape Gull Larus vetula - Common at the Cape Peninsula.

Kelp Gull Larus dominicanus - Singles at the Cape of Good Hope NR and atTsitsikamma NP.

Caspian Tern Sterna caspia - Seen on three days in low numbers.

**Swift Tern** *Sterna bergii* – Common.

Common Tern Sterna hirundo - A single bird at Tsitiskamma NP.

PTEROCLIDAE

**Double-banded Sandgrouse** *Pterocles bicinctus* - A pair at close range along the S69.

**COLUMBIDAE** 

**African Mourning Dove** *Streptopelia decipiens* - Most common in Kruger NP.

**Red-eyed Dove** *Streptopelia semit* - Common at the Cape Peninsula.

**Cape Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia capicola* – Common from July 19 to July 27.

**Laughing Dove** *Streptopelia senegalensis* – Common and seen on most days.

**African Green Pigeon** *Treron calvus* - Common in Kruger NP.

**Rock (Speckled) Pigeon** *Columba guinea* - Seen on four days, most common at the Cape Peninsula.

**Emerald-spotted (Greenspotted) Wood-dove** *Turtur chalcospilos* - Seen on four days in the North East, first on July 29, most common in Kruger NP.

Rameron Pigeon Columba arquatrix - Seen on seven days, most common at De Hoop NR.

Feral Pigeon Columba livia (introduced) - Seen on two days, common near Cape Town.





Red-eyed Dove: below, left; Laughin Dove: below, right.

## **PSITTACIDAE**

**Brown-headed Parrot** *Poicephalus fuscicollis* - Seen at Lower Sabie and Letaba.

### MUSOPHAGIDAE

**Grey Lourie (Grey Go Away Bird)** *Corythaixoides concolor* - Common in Kruger NP. Well camouflaged even in leafless trees.



**Knysna Lourie** *Tauraco corythaix* – A single bird at the Vassalot campsite (Tsitsikamma NP).

**Purple-crested Turaco** *Musophaga porphyreolopha* - Two birds when walking to the beach at Umlalazi NR.

## **CUCULIDAE**

**Klaas's Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx klaas* – Good views at Grootvadersbos NP and near the swimming pool at Umlalazi NR.

### CENTROPODIDAE

Burchell's Coucal Centropus burchelli - Common in Kruger NP.

## **STRIGIDAE**

**African Wood Owl** *Strix woodfordii* - Calling at the campsites of Grootvadersbos NP and Vassalot.

**Pearl-spotted Owlet** Glaucidium perlatum – Well seen during the car drive in Hlane Royal NP.

Verreaux's (Giant) Eagle Owl Bubo lacteus - Seen well in a roadside tree near Satara.



Cape Eagle Owl Bubo capensis – A surprise. Spotted while cooking at the campsite of De Hoop NR.

### **CAPRIMULGIDAE**

**Square-tailed (Mozambique) Nightjar** *Caprimulgus fossii* - Common at Letaba, flying over the river at sunset.

### **APODIDAE**

**African Palm Swift** *Cypsiurus parvus* – Common from July 28 onwards.

**Little Swift** Apus affinis - Seen on July 20 and from July 29 onwards.

African Black Swift Apus barbatus – Low numbers at Sir Lowry's Pass and on two other days.

Alpine Swift Tachymarptis melba - As previous species.

## COLIIDAE

White-backed Mousebird Colius colius – Five birds at the Vassalot campsite.

**Red-faced Mousebird** *Urocolius indicus* – Six birds briefly seen near parking lot of the Potberg trails.

**Speckled Mousebird** *Colius striatus* - The most common Mousebird, seen almost daily.



**ALCEDINIDAE** 

**Pied Kingfisher** *Ceryle rudis* – Common, seen in low numbers throughout the tour.

**Brown-hooded Kingfisher** *Halcyon albiventris* - Seen on six days, first at Grootvadersbos.

Half-collared Kingfisher Alcedo semitorquata – Seen during the too brief canoe trip at Vassalot.

Malachite Kingfisher Alcedo cristata - A single bird flying over the small pond at Heidelberg.

## CERYLIDAE

**Giant Kingfisher** *Megaceryle maximus* - Seen on six days in low numbers.

## **MEROPIDAE**

White-fronted Bee-eater Merops bullockoides - Seen on four days in Kruger NP.

**Little Bee-eater** *Merops pusillus* - Nice views of a few birds in St. Lucia NP.

## CORACIIDAE

Lilac-breasted Roller Coracias caudatus – Common, a roadside bird. Below: left.

Purple Roller Coracias naevius – Low numbers on four days in Kruger NP. Below: right.





## **UPUPIDAE**

**African Hoopoe** *Upupa africana* - Seen and or heard on nine days. At least ten birds near the campsite of De Hoop NR.

## **PHOENICULIDAE**

**Red-billed (Green) Woodhoopoe** *Phoeniculus purpureus* - Six birds at Hlane Royal NP and three birds at Lower Sabie.

### **RHINOPOMASTIDAE**

Greater (Common) Scimitarbill Rhinopomastus cyanomelas – Seen at Hlane Royal NP and Kruger NP.

## **BUCEROTIDAE**

**Red-billed Hornbill** *Tockus erythrorhynchus* - Seen from Hlane Royal NP onwards.



Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill Tockus leucomelas - Common, up to 100 birds daily.



African Grey Hornbill Tockus nasutus – Common from Lower Sabie onwards, 20-40 birds daily.

**Trumpeter Hornbill** *Bycanistes bucinator* - Common in the mangroves of Umlalazi NR.

### **BUCORVIDAE**

**Southern Ground Hornbill** *Bucorvus leadbeateri* – Two adults and two immatures seen along the S69 near Letaba. Vulnerable (IUCN).

### **CAPITONIDAE**

White-eared Barbet Stacttolaema whytii – A single bird on July 26 and ten at Umlalazi NR.

**(Yellow-rumped) Golden-rumped Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus chrysoconus* - Two birds at the swimming pool of Umlalazi NR.

Acacia Pied Barbet Tricholaema leucomelas - A male at Mountain Zebra NP.

**Red-fronted Barbet** *Pogoniolus pusillus* - A single male at Mountain Zebra NP.

**Black-collared Barbet** *Lybius torquatus* - Common from Hlane Royal NP onwards.

**Crested Barbet** *Trachyphonus vaillantii* – Seen in low numbers in Kruger NP. Foraging at the ground, sometimes in mixed flocks.



Crested Barbet: above, left; Black-collared Barbet: above, right.

### **INDICATORIDAE**

Lesser Honeyguide Indicator minor - Nice views of a single bird at Hlane Royal NP.

### **PICIDAE**

Olive Woodpecker Dendropicos griseocephalus – Singles at Grootvadersbos and Tsitsikamma NP.

**Ground Woodpecker** *Geocolaptes olivaceus* – Seen at Sir Lowry's Pass and Giants Castle GR.

Cardinal Woodpecker Dendropicos fuscescens - Two birds in a mixed flock at Mountain Zebra NP.

Bearded Woodpecker Dendropicos namaquus - Brief views of a female at Hlane Royal NP.

**JYNGIDAE** 

**Red-throated Wryneck** *Jynx ruficollis* - Excellent views of two birds on a large rock along a trail at Basotho, Golden Gate Highlands NP.

**ALAUDIDAE** 

Sabota Lark Calendulauta sabota - Seen in Mountain Zebra NP and near Letaba.

Karoo Lark Certhilauda albescens - Single birds at De Hoop NR.

**Red-capped Lark** *Calandrella cinerea* - Seen on four days, common between Bredasdorp and De Hoop NR ("farmland loop").

**Thick-billed Lark** *Galerida magnirostris* - Seen on two days, also most common at the "farmland loop".

**Agulhas Long-billed Lark** *Certhilauda brevirostris* - A single bird while traveling between De Hoop NR and Suurbraak.

HIRUNDINIDAE

**Lesser Striped Swallow** *Hirundo abyssinica* - Common in Kruger NP.

Wire-tailed Swallow Hirundo smithii - As previous species.

Black Saw-wing (Swallow) Psalidoprocne holomelaena - Singles at Tsitsikamma NP and Umlalazi NR.

Brown-throated Martin Riparia paludicola - Common, seen during the first half of the tour.

**Rock Martin** *Hirundo fuligula* - Seen on four days.

Barn Swallow Hirundo rustica - A single migrant at the Cape of Good Hope NR.

CAMPEPHAGIDAE

**Grey Cuckooshrike** *Coracina caesia* - Heard in Grootvadersbos.

DICRURIDAE

Fork-tailed Drongo Dicrurus adsimillis - Common, seen from July 17 onwards.

Square-tailed Drongo Dicrurus ludwigii – A few seen in Kruger NP.

ORIOLODAE

Black-headed Oriole Oriolus larvatus - Seen or heard on ten days.

CORVIDAE

**Pied Crow** *Corvus albus* – Common from Kommetjie to St. Lucia NP.

Black (Cape) Crow Corvus capensis - Seen on five days, first seen at Cape Town.

White-necked Raven Corvus albicollis - Seen on eight days, common

**PARIDAE** 

**Southern Black Tit** *Parus niger -* Seen at Hlane Royal NP and Kruger NP.

**TIMALIDIDAE** 

Arrow-marked Babbler Turdoides jardineii - Common in Kruger NP.

**PYCNONOTIDAE** 

**Sombre Bulbul** *Andropadus importunus* – Seen in low numbers during the tour.

Yellow-bellied Bulbul Chlorocichla flaviventris - Seen on several days, most common at Umlalazi NR.

Terrestrial Bulbul Phyllastrephus terrestris - Two birds at the campsite of Grootvadersbos.

Black-eyed (Dark-capped) Bulbul Pycnonotus tricolor - Common, seen from July 26 onwards.

**Red-eyed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus nigricans* – A single bird at Clarens, July 26.

Cape Bulbul Pycnonotus capensis - Common at the Cape Peninsula.

**TURDIDAE** 

**Groundscraper Thrush** *Psophocichla litsitsirupa* - Common during the morning walk at Hlane Royal NP.

Kurrichane Thrush Turdus libonyanus - Common at Hlane Royal NP and Kruger NP.

Karoo Thrush Turdus smithi – Three seen at Cradock.

Olive Thrush Turdus olivaceus - Seen from Cape Town to Giants Castle GR.

**Short-toed Rock Thrush** *Monticola brevipes* - Brief views of a male, likely this species, at Golden Gate Highlands NP.

Sentinel Rock Thrush Monticola explorator - Nice views of a male at Sir Lowry's Pass.

Cape Rock Thrush Monticola rupestris - Seen at Sir Lowry's Pass and Giants Castle GR.

Cape Rock Jumper Chaetops frenatus - A female and male at Sir Lowry's Pass.

**Mocking (Cliff) Chat** *Thamnoleaea cinnamomeiventris* - Seen on three days, first seen at Golden Gate Highlands NP.

**Capped Wheatear** *Oenanthe pileata* - Common at the Farmland loop.

Familiar Chat Cercomela familiaris - Seen from Cape Town to Giants Castel NP.

**Stonechat** Saxicola torquatus - Common, first seen at Sir Lowry's Pass.

Buff-streaked Chat Oenanthe bifasciata – Two birds at Basotho, Golden Gate Highlands NP.

**Anteating Chat** *Myrmecocichla formicivora* – Common in Mountain Zebra NP and Golden Gate Highlands NP.

Cape Robin Cossypha caffra - Common, daily seen from Cape of Good Hope NR to Giants Castle GR.

**Heuglin's Robin** *Cossypha heuglini* - Two birds at Letaba.

Chorister Robin Cossypha dichroa - Two birds at Tsitsikamma NP.

Natal Robin Cossypha natalensis – Single birds at Umlalazi NR.

**Bearded Srub-Robin** *Cercotrichas quadrivirgata* - A single bird at Letaba.

Brown Scrub-Robin Cercotrichas signata - Two birds at Cape Vidal.

**Karoo Scrub-Robin** *Cercotrichas coryphoeus* - One bird in De Hoop NR, and ten when travelling from Ladysmith to Vassalo.

**SYLVIIDAE** 

Knysna Warbler Bradypterus sylvaticus - One bird heard in Grootvadersbos.

**Cape Reed (Lesser) Swamp-Warbler** *Acrocephalus gracilirostris* - One bird seen at the Strandfontein Sewage Works.

Bar-throated Apalis Apalis thorocica – One seen in De Hoop NR, seven on July 21-23.

Yellow-breasted Apalis Apalis flavida - Two birds at Hlane Royal NP.

**Long-billed Crombec** *Sylvietta rufescens* - Resembling a Nuthatch. Two in Hlane Royal NP and two in Kruger NP.

**Chestnut-vented Tit-Babbler** *Parisoma subcaeruleum* - Six birds in a mixed flock at Mountain Zebra NP.

**Yellow-throated Woodland-warbler** *Phylloscopus ruficapilla* - One heard in Grootvadersbos and two seen in Giants Castle GR.

**Green-backed Bleating Warbler** *Camaroptera brchyura* - One bird at Umlalazi NR.

Cape Grassbird Sphenoeacus afer - Good views of a single bird at Koppie Alleen. Also one on July 26.

**Fan-tailed (Zitting) Cisticola** *Cisticola juncidis* – Common at Lower Sabie.

Cloud Cistacola Cisticola textrix - Two birds at St. Lucia NP.

**Neddicky** Cisticola flulvicapilla – Low numbers on four days, first bird singing in fynbos at Buffelsbaai.

Levaillant's Cistacola Cisticola tinniens - Seen on three days, first at the Strandfontein Sewage Works.

Rattling Cistacola Cisticola chiniana - Over 20 birds when driving from Hlane Royal NP to Kruger NP.

**Croaking Cistacola** *Cisticola natalensis* - A single bird at Umlalazi NR.

Black-chested Prinia Prinia flavicans - Common at Lower Sabie..

Tawny-flanked Prinia Prinia subflava – Uncommon at Lower Sabie.

**Karoo Prinia** *Prinia maculosa* - Common at the Cape Peninsula.

**Drakensberg Prinia** *Prinia hypoxantha* - A single bird at Giants Castle.

**MUSCICAPIDAE** 

**Dusky (African) Flycatcher** *Muscicapa adusta* - Seen throughout the tour, first at Cape Town.

Southern Black Flycatcher Melaenormis pammelaina - Common at Hlane Royal NP..

**Fiscal Flycatcher** *Sigelus silens* – Seen on four days at the Cape Peninsula.

**Cape Batis** Batis capensis – A pair at the campsite at Kommetjie, also seen on three other days.

**Chin-spot Batis** *Batis molitor* - Seen daily from Hlane Royal NP to Kruger NP.

**Blue-mantled Flycatcher** *Trochocercus cyanomelas* - A single female during a walk near the Vassalot campsite on July 23 (Tsitsikamma NP).

Paradise Flycatcher Tersiphone viridis - Seen at Hlane Royal NP and Kruger NP.

**MOTACILLIDAE** 

Long-billed Pipit Anthus similis - Seen at the farmland loop between Bredasdorp and De Hoop NR.

**Plain-backed Pipit** Anthus leucophrys – As previous species. Also seen on two other days.

**Orange-throated Longclaw** *Macronyx capensis* – Seen on four days, first at the Strandfontein Sewage Works. A partial albino at De Hoop NR showed the typical orange throat but the remainder of its feathers were pale brownish white.

Yellow-throated Pipit Macronyx croceus - Three birds at Umlalazi NR and one bird at Lower Sabie.

Cape Wagtail Motacilla capensis - Common at the Cape Peninsula.

**African Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla aguimp* - Seen on four days.

LANIIDAE

**Fiscal Shrike** *Lanius collaris* - Common throughout the tour.

Long-tailed (Magpie) Shrike Corvinella melanoleuca – Common from St. Lucia NP onwards.

MALACONOTIDAE

**Southern White-crowned Shrike** *Eurocephalus anguitimens* - Two birds at Crocodile Bridge.

**Brubru** *Nilaus afer* - A pair along the S69 near Letaba.

(Black-backed) Puffback Dryoscopus cubla – Common from Tsitsikamma NP onwards.

**Southern Tchagra** *Tchagra tchagra* – Low numbers at De Hoop NR.

Three-streaked Tchagra Tchagra australis - Two birds at Hlane Royal NP.

Black-crowned Tchagra Tchagra senegalus – Low numbers from Hlane Royal NP onwards.

Olive Bush Shrike Telephorus olivaceus - Two birds seen during the morning walk at Hlane Royal NP.

**Gorgeous Bush Shrike** *Telephorus quadricolor* - A brief view of a male near Letaba.

**Orange-breasted Bush Shrike** *Telephorus sulfureopectus -* A single bird at Crocodile Bridge.

Bokmakerie Telphorus zeylonus - Moderately common, seen at De Hoop NR and Giants Castle.

Grey-headed Bush Shrike Malaconotus blanchoti - Seen at Crocodile Bridge and Satara.

PRIONOPIDAE

Retz's (Red-billed) Helmet Shrike Prionops retzii – Five seen when driving in Hlane Royal NP.

White-crested (White) Helmet Shrike *Prionops plumatus* – Small flocks in Hlane Royal NP and Kruger NP.

**STURNIDAE** 

Wattled Starling Creatophora cinerea - Four birds near the campsite of De Hoop NR.

Red-winged Starling Onychognathus morio - Very common. First seen at Cape Town.

**Pied (African) Starling** *Spreo bicolor* - Very common in the Karoo when traveling to Bredasdorp and near Mountain Zebra NP.

**European Starling** Sturnus vulgaris (introduced) - Seen at the Cape Peninsula.

**Common Myna** Acridotheres tristis (introduced) - Seen on July 26 and 28.

Burchell's Glossy Starling Lamprotornis australis - Common from St. Lucia NP to Kruger NP.

Black-bellied Glossy Starling Lamprotornis corruscus - Flocks at Vassalot and Umlalazi NR.

**Greater Blue-eared Glossy Starling** *Lamprotornis chalybaeus* - Common in Hlane Royal NP and Kruger NP.



Cape Glossy Starling Lamprotornis nitens - Common in Kruger NPs.

**BUPHAGIDAE** 

**Red-billed Oxpecker** Buphagus erythrohynchus - Common in Kruger NP.

**PROMEROPIDAE** 

Cape Sugerbird Promerops cafer - Moderately common at the Cape Peninsula



**Gurney's Sugerbird** *Promerops gurneyi* – One bird at Giants Castle.

## **NECTARINIIDAE**

Malachite Sunbird Nectarinia famosa - Common at the Cape Peninsula.

**Lesser Double-collared Sunbird** *Cinnyris chalybeus* – As previous species.

**Greater Double-collared Sunbird** *Cinnyris afer* - Seen on four days, including Grootvadersbos.

White-bellied Sunbird Cinnyris talatala – Common from Umlalazi NR onwards.

Collared Sunbird Hedydipna collaris - Two males at Umlalazi NR. Also seen on three other days.

**Scarlet-chested Sunbird** *Chalcomitra senegalensis* - Brief views of a male at Letaba.

Marico Sunbird Cinnyris mariquensis - Seen from Hlane Royal NP onwards. Common at Lower Sabie.

**Purple-banded Sunbird** *Cinnyris bifaciatus* - A male at Lower Sabie.

**Orange-breasted Sunbird** *Anthobaphes violacea* – A fynbos specialist, seen on the Cape Peninsula.

## ZOSTEROPIDAE

**Cape White-eye** *Zosterops capensis pallidus* – Common.





Cape White-eye: above, left; Lesser Double-collared Sunbird: above, right.

## **POLOCEIDAE**

Petronia Petronia superciliaris - Common at Hlane Royal NP and one bird in Kruger NP.

**Southern Grey-headed Sparrow** *Passer diffusus* - Flocks at Golden Gate Highlands NP, Hlane Royal NP and Kruger NP.

House Sparrow Passer domesticus (introduced) - Common at the Cape Peninsula and Kruger NP.

Cape Sparrow Passer melanurus - Seen at the Cape Peninsula

Red-billed Buffalo-weaver Bubalornis niger - Two birds near Lower Sabie and nesting birds at Satara.

White-browed Sparrow-weaver *Plocepasser mahali* - A flock of 20+ birds at Mountain Zebra NP (July 24).

Forest (Dark-backed) weaver Ploceus bicolor - Seen at the campsite of Cape Vidal, St. Lucia NP.

Cape Weaver Ploceus capensis – Common, seen from De Hoop NR to July 28..

**Spectacled Weaver** *Ploceus ocularis* - Five birds at Lower Sabie.

Southern Masked Weaver Ploceus velatus - Low number on four days, best views at Cradock.

**Lesser Masked Weaver** *Ploceus intermedius* - Seen at Satara.

Village (Spottedbacked) Weaver Ploceus cucullatus – Seen in Kruger NP.

**Red-headed Weaver** *Anaplectus rubriceps* - Common at Hlane Royal NP and in Kruger NP. Males started building their nests, reconstruction in fact, at Letabo on August 7.



Above, left: Red-headed Weaver; above, right: Village (Spot-backed) Weaver; below, left: Weaver sp. nest; above, right: Lesser-masked Weaver.

**(Southern) Red Bishop** *Euplectus orix* - Common at the farmland loop between Bredasdorp and De Hoop. Only a few birds in breeding plumage.

Long-tailed Widow Euplectus progne - A flock of 20-30 birds when traveling from Cradock to Clarens.

Yellow (Yellow-rumped) Widow Euplectus capensis - Seen on five days, first at Buffelsbaai.

## **ESTRILDIDAE**

Melba Finch Pytilia melba - Singles in Kruger NP.

**Red-billed Firefinch** *Lagonostica senegala* - A single bird near Letaba.

**Blue-billed (African) Firefinch** *Lagonostica rubricata* - A flock of about 50 birds in a sugar cane field at Umlalazi NR and a single bird at Hlane Royal NP.

Blue Waxbill Uraeginthus angolensis - Common in Hlane Royal NP and Kruger NP.

**Common Waxbill** *Estrilda astrild* - Two birds close to our tent at the Kometjie campsite. Also a few flocks seen of 10-100 birds.

**Swee Waxbill** *Estrilda melanotis* - Seen daily from July 21 to23, first bird seen at Grootvadersbos.

Bronze Mannikin Lonchura cucullata - Common at Umlalazi NR, Hlane Royal NP and Kruger NP.

### VIDUIDAE

**Paradise (Long-tailed) Whydah** *Vidua paradisea* - Beautiful views of a perched male in full breeding plumage when travelling to Hlane Royal NP.

### FRINGIILIDAE

Yellow-eyed Canary Serinus mozambicus - Seen in the Northeast. Most common near Lower Sabie.

**Forest Canary** *Serinus scotops* - Seen on three days, most common at Grootvadersbos.

Yellow Canary Serinus flaviventris - Seen near Cape Town.

**Cape Canary** *Serinus canicollis* - Three birds near the beach at Kommetjie.

**Bully Canary** Serinus suphuratus – Low numbers daily from De Hoop NR to Grootvadersbos.

**Streaky-headed Canary** *Serinus gularis* - Seen on three days.

Cape Siskin Pseudochloroptila totta - Seen at De Hoop NR and on two other days.

**Golden-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza flaviventris* - Seen in Mountain Zebra NP, Hlane Royal NP and Kruger NP.

**Cape Bunting** *Emberiza capensis* - Common at the Cape Peninsula.



Miscellaneous - I discovered an arboreal bird when walking along a stream near the Main Caves in Giants Castle GR. A slender bird, sparrow-sized. Restless nature, light underpart and rufous tial, which was continueously being spread. Reminded me of a Fantail Flycatchers, and my impression was that it indeed was a flycatcher. I was unable to find in the Sasal Birds of Southern Africa (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition), and the only bird resembling my description was **Livingstone's Flycatcher** *Erythrocercus livingstonei*, which only appears farther North.

# **MAMMALS**

**MURINAE** 

Striped Mouse Rhabdomys pumilio - Between Ladysmith and Vassalot, Tsitsikamma NP.

**THRYONOMIDAE** 

Greater Canerat Thryonomys swinderianus - Seen by Annelien at a sugar cane field near Umlalazi NR.

**SCIURIDAE** 

Ground Squirrel Xerus iauris - One near Mountain Zebra NP.

**Tree Squirrel** *Paraxerus cepapi* - Seen at Lower Sabie and Satara.

**PEDETIDAE** 

**Springhare** *Pedetes capensis* - Nice views of this nocturnal hare, spotted by Imie near Satara.

**LEPORIDAE** 

Cape Hare Lepus capensis - Seen at De Hoop NR.

**Scrubhare** Lepus saxatilis - Seen during a night tour and at the Satara campsite.

PROCAVIIDAE

**Rock Dassie** *Procavia capensis* – Common at the Cape Peninsula including De Hoop NR.





## **ELEPHANTIDAE**

**Elephant** *Loxodonta africana* - A total of 50 at Kruger NP. We almost had a collision with a group of Elephants crossing the road.

## **EQUIDAE**

Cape Mountain Zebra Equus zebra zebra – Seen at De Hoop NR and Mountain Zebra NP.



Burchell's (Plains) Zebra Equus burchelli - Seen at Umlalazi NR and in Kruger NP



## RHINOCEROTIDAE

**Square-lipped Rhinoceros** *Ceratotherium simum* – Two briefly seen while driving from Crocodile Bridge to Lower Sabie.

## HIPPOPOTAMIDAE

Hippopotamus Hippopotamus amphibius - Common in Kruger NP.



**SUIDAE** 

Warthog Phacochoerus aethiopicus - Seen on five days, first at St. Lucia NP.

## **GIRAFFIDAE**

Giraffe Giraffa camelopardalis – A single while driving in Swaziland. About 60-70 at Kruger NP.



**BOVIDAE** 

Black Wildebeest Connochaetus gnou - About 100 at Mountain Zebra NP.

Red Hartebeest Alcelaphus buselaphus – Seen in Mountain Zebra NP and Kruger NP

Blue Wildebeest Connochaetus taurinus - Common at Hlane Royal NP and Kruger NP.



**Bontebok** *Damaliscus dorcas dorcas* - Common at the Cape Peninsula.



Blesbok Damaliscus dorcas phillipsi - Seen in the Mountain Zebra NP area.



Red Duiker Cephalophus natalensis - Common at Umlalazi NR and at Cape Vidal.

**Common (Grey) Duiker** *Sylvicapra grimmia* - One seen when traveling from Clarens to Golden Gate Highlands NP.

**Springbok** *Anticorcas marsupialis* - Common in the Karoo landscape.

**Klipspringer** *Oreotragus oreotragus* - A distant male near Grootvadersbos and good views of singles in Kruger NP.

Steenbok Raphicerus campestris – About eight at Mountain Zebra NP.

(Cape) Grysbok Raphicerus melanotis - Common at De Hoop NR.

Impala Aepyceos melampus - Common from Swaziland onwards.





African Buffalo Syncerus cafer - Seen almost daily in Kruger NP.



(Greater) Kudu Tragelaphus strepsiceros - Seen in Kruger NP.



**Bushbuck** *Tragelaphus scriptus* - Common at the Satara and Letaba campsites.

**Eland** *Taurotragus oryx* - Seen in De Hoop NR.



(Southern) Reedbuck Redunca arundinum - Seen at St. Lucia NP.

Waterbuck Kobus ellipsiprymnus - Seen in Kruger NP.



HYAENIDAE

**Spotted Hyaena** *Crocuta crocuta* - Great views of a family during a night tour and near Satara.

### **FELIDAE**

**Leopard** *Panthera pardus* - Close to the Lower Sabie campsite, a Leopard crossed the road and slowly passed on along the river, climbing over rocks and looking for food.

**Lion** *Panthera leo* - Stunning views at close range, two males and females at Lower Sabie, August 2. Also seen on two other days in Kruger NP.





Caracal Felis caracal - Brief views when crossing the road near De Mond, De Hoop NR.

## **VIVERRIDAE**

**Small-spotted Genet** *Genetta genetta* – One seen during the night tour in Kruger NP.

Large-spotted Genet Genetta tigrina - One well seen at Vassalot.

**Suricate** *Suricata suricatta* - About ten "stokstaartjes" in the Karoo between Graaf Reinet and Mountain Zebra NP.

Yellow Mongoose Cynictus penicillata - Common in De Hoop NR.

**Slender Mongoose** *Galerella sanguinea* - Seen in Kruger NP.

**Small Grey Mongoose** *Galerella pulverulenta* – Two seen in the Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden.



Banded Mongoose Mungos mungo - A single in Kruger NP.

## CERCOPITHECIDAE

Chacma Baboon Papio cynocephalus ursinus - Seen in good numbers on most days. Common.



Vervet Monkey Cercopithecus aethiops - Seen in the Karoo, St. Lucia NP and Kruger NP.



**Samango Monkey** *Cercopithecus mitis* – About ten at the campsite of Cape Vial, St. Lucia NP. Six at Kruger NP.

## **OTARIIDAE**

Cape Fur Seal Arctocephalus pusillus - Seen at Kommetjie, Cape Peninsula.

## CETACEA

**Southern Right Whale** *Eubalaena australis* - Good views at a.o. Cape Town and Hermanus.



Bryde's Whale Balaenoptera edeni - One seen at Hermanus (July 17).

Miscellaneous

Various species of mouse and bat, and reptiles, including snake, turtle, tortoise, crocodile, and skink