



# ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

## **Angola:** **Endemics Overland Adventure** *9<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> September 2012*



White-headed Robin-Chat by Jonathan Rossouw

**Trip Report compiled by Tour Leader David Hoddinott**

### **Trip Summary**

This tour simply gets better and better – well, at the time of writing anyway, and for a number of reasons! We now have a clearly determined route on good tar roads, which cover 90% of the trip, while the other 10% of gravel roads used have also been drastically improved. This makes the tour far more comfortable and enables us to get from one locality to another timeously, allowing for maximum birding time in the field. In addition, we have amassed an excellent understanding of Angola's avifauna since we first instigated birding tours to the country in 2004 and are therefore familiar with the best areas to find and see the nation's numerous endemics and other key species.

Due to the much better driving conditions, we have even been able to reduce the tour length by a day; and, as things currently stand, there is sufficient habitat remaining to have a good chance of seeing all the target birds. Furthermore, our ground operations team provides an excellent camping safari with fairly spacious dome tents, stretchers, bedrolls (containing sheet and mattress), hot water showers, comfortable portable toilets and delicious meals. This means the tour is no longer arduous and is now suitable for anyone with reasonable fitness keen to explore one of the least visited birding hotspots in the world! (Angola has the fourth highest number of endemic bird species of any country in Africa and a staggering bird list of 984 species!) There is therefore no better time to visit than the present, especially considering that logging companies are presently harvesting the forests of Angola as we speak and “slash and burn” is common practice in the countryside. Who knows how long the habitat will remain intact to support sufficient populations of Angola’s special birds?! Anyhow, for all the tour highlights and a detailed report, please read on .....



**Tundavala escarpment by Markus Lilje**

Our second comprehensive Angola tour was again extremely successful! We notched up 530 species, including all of Angola’s endemic birds and many near-endemics shared only with Namibia, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo. An undoubted highlight was finding Brazza’s Martin, which has probably been seen by less than twenty birders! Other significant sightings included White-headed Robin-Chat, Braun’s Bushshrike, Swierstra’s Francolin and Gabela Helmetshrike, all of which have only been seen on a limited number of tours to Angola.

We started off our fabulous adventure at the Tundavala escarpment, near Lubango. From our secluded campsite we enjoyed the wonderful views over the escarpment and the superb birding in the vicinity. After everyone had finally arrived, we set about finding all the area’s key endemics. These included the striking Angola Cave Chat, Angola Slaty Flycatcher, Ludwig’s Double-collared and Oustalet’s Sunbirds, and the handsome Angolan Waxbill. By the end of the day we had wrapped up all these specials and were lucky to find a Swierstra’s Francolin early the following morning. Other notable sightings here included African Black Duck, a dashing Lanner Falcon, splendid Black Stork, flocks of Alpine and Bradfield’s Swifts, Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird, Black-collared Barbet, Chinspot Batis, Brown-crowned Tchagra, Greater Striped Swallow, Red-capped Crombec, Tinkling Cisticola, Salvadori’s and Green-capped Eremomelas, Hartlaub’s Babbler, Kurrichane Thrush, elusive Bocage’s Akalat, Short-toed Rock Thrush and Striped Pipit.



**Angola Slaty Flycatcher by Markus Lilje**



From our comfortable Tundavala campsite we then made a day trip to Namibe, which saw us enjoying a wonderful selection of dry country species more typical of Namibia. These included Red-necked Spurfowl, Black-chested Snake Eagle, Pale Chanting Goshawk, Verreaux's Eagle, a pair of African Hawk-Eagles, a lovely adult Martial Eagle, two impressive Ludwig's Bustard, a trio of Rüppell's Korhaans that gave away their presence with their distinctive call, Namaqua Dove, cute Rosy-faced Lovebirds, Rüppell's Parrot, Grey Go-away-bird, Swallow-tailed Bee-eater, Common Scimitarbill, Damara Red-billed and Monteiro's Hornbills, comical White-tailed Shrikes as they bounded about the sandy areas, Southern Fiscal, Carp's and Ashy Tits, Benguela Long-billed, Spike-heeled and Stark's Larks, Meves's and Pale-winged Starlings, Groundscraper Thrush, Rufous-tailed Palm Thrush, Kalahari Scrub Robin, Tractrac Chat, Chat Flycatcher and Dusky Sunbird.

Leaving the highlands of Tundavala, we next made our way north – but not before an early morning foray to find Rockrunner; which, after a concerted effort, showed reasonably well. In the vicinity we also found a confiding and displaying Little Rush Warbler and had scope views of a superb pair of Landana Firefinch. Travelling north we then passed through a mosaic of habitats, from highland grassland to Miombo woodland to coastal lagoons and, finally, to Baobab-studded arid thickets, all of which ensured a wonderful mix of species. These included a lovely flock of Greater Flamingo, Black-winged Stilt, Marsh Sandpiper, Ruff, a Little Sparrowhawk zipping over the road, majestic Grey Kestrel, Pearl-spotted Owlet, a fabulous flock of 15 Böhm's Spinetails, Purple Roller, Yellow-bellied Hyliota and Green-winged Pytilia. Our camp for the evening, situated near Benguela, was set amongst magnificent Baobab trees, a dominant feature of the area. After settling in we enjoyed reminiscing over our successes at Tundavala whilst seated around the campfire and sipping on a glass of red wine. What a great way to end a day!

Some of the highlights of our time here included extended scope views of Hartlaub's Spurfowl, a soaring Booted Eagle, Monteiro's Hornbill, Acacia Pied Barbet, Pirit Batis, confiding Swamp Boubou, Sabota Lark, Black-chested Prinia and a family group of Bare-cheeked Babblers. A delightful Smith's Rock Elephant Shrew also made an appearance for all to enjoy, while a mother and young Klipspringer were seen on a rocky knoll.



**Monteiro's Hornbill by Markus Lilje**



**White-tailed Shrike by Markus Lilje**

Excitement then mounted as we headed to our next mega birding hotspot, Mount Moco. This area of rolling grasslands, Miombo woodland and afro-montane forest supports a good selection of endemics, near-endemics and other localized species. Amongst a host of sought-after birds was Finsch's Francolin – we were very fortunate to find a covey quietly feeding in the grassland below us, allowing fantastic scope views. What a relief to have this one in the bag! As if this wasn't enough, we also had a nice surprise sighting in the form of a Blue Quail during one of our explorations in the grassland. On another occasion we were absorbed for five minutes watching a group of four dancing



White-bellied Bustards right near our vehicle. A single female was chasing a couple of males around and the males were seen puffing out their black throat feathers, all the while totally unperturbed by us. It really was quite a sight to behold.

It's always a great day when you see a flufftail, since they are particularly elusive birds, and on this occasion a pair of obliging Red-chested Flufftails showed relatively well several times. Having found African Grass Owl here last year, we explored a similar area and, much to our delight, a pair of these beautiful birds was in attendance and showed superbly well. The highly localized Margaret's Batis was another major target and surprisingly it showed up almost immediately once we had arrived at a suitable patch of forest. However, it then disappeared for a few minutes after only showing briefly, and so we waited with baited breath for it to reappear, which it fortunately did, allowing great views for all. The gorgeous Black-and-rufous Swallow did not disappoint and in fact we located more birds this year than on any of our previous tours. A major additional highlight was finding the beautiful iridescent purple Bocage's Sunbird. After Jon Rossouw and I had debated on where to search for this species, we soon hit the nail on the head as, after just five minutes of searching in the habitat we presumed to be good for them, we found a wonderful 3 birds (two males and a female)! The pair showed particularly well and we all enjoyed scope views. (As an aside, no field guide at present illustrates this species correctly. Most depict it as being black when in fact it is a beautiful iridescent purple.)



**African Grass Owl by Jonathan Rossouw**

Other notable sightings in the Mount Moco area included several African Marsh Harriers, Dark Chanting Goshawk, Red-necked Buzzard, two stunning male Black-bellied Bustards, African Olive Pigeon, Schalow's Turaco, Coppery-tailed Coucal, Great Spotted Cuckoo, Western Tinkerbird, superb Black-backed Barbet, Black-throated Wattle-eye, our first Gorgeous (Perrin's) Bushshrike, White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, Rufous-bellied & Miombo Tits, Angola Lark, Black-collared Bulbul, Dark-capped Yellow Warbler (this distinctive race *major*, lacks a dark cap), Grey Apalis, African Hill Babbler, cryptic Spotted Creeper, Miombo Rock Thrush, a flock of Orange-winged Pytilia, Dusky Twinspot, Black-faced Canary and Thick-billed Seed eater.



**Miombo Rock Thrush by Markus Lilje**

With a keen-eyed group of enthusiast participants and a great deal of good fortune, we had found all but one of our target birds for the area, the unpredictable Anchieta's Barbet – which we were nonetheless banking on finding at a better site later in the trip. This meant we could depart a day early, thereby giving ourselves more time ahead to search for other difficult species.

Our next destination was the magnificent Kumbira Forest near Gabela. This is certainly one of the endemic hotspots in the country and did not disappoint. En route we even found a splendid Bat Hawk perched up in a Baobab tree right next to the road – fantastic! Over the next two days we



enjoyed a memorable time exploring the area. Noteworthy sightings included African Goshawk displaying, a stately African Hobby perched up and giving great scope views for an extended period, lovely Red-crested Turaco (which wrapped up the world's turacos for several participants), extremely elusive Gabon Coucal that showed briefly, Trumpeter Hornbill, Naked-faced and Hairy-breasted Barbets, Pallid Honeyguide, Buff-spotted, Brown-eared and Elliot's Woodpeckers, lovely Woodland Kingfisher, smart Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye, Monteiro's and Gabela Bushshrikes, Dusky Tit, Yellow-throated Nicator, a host of greenbuls including Falkenstein's and Pale-olive which showed remarkably well, unbelievable views of Pulitzer's Longbill (we were fortunate to hear at least 4 different individuals calling of this rare, threatened and localized species), Hartert's Camaroptera, Southern Hyliota, Gabela Akalat, Forest Scrub Robin (yet another shy species that was seen exceptionally well), Carmelite Sunbird and a pair of Red-faced Crimsonwings.



**Anchieta's Sunbird by Jonathan Rossouw**

Making our way north-east, we over-nighted near Tombingo Forest. Highlights of our time here included a good but brief sighting of Lemon Dove, one of the few records for the country. Other notable sightings included a splendid African Cuckoo-Hawk, a party of Great Blue Turacos, Piping Hornbill, Green-backed and Yellow-crested Woodpeckers, cute Angola Batis, Black-winged Oriole, Rufous-crowned Eremomela, Fraser's Rufous Thrush and both Green-throated and Superb Sunbirds.

Our time spent in the Kinjila area near Calandula was remarkably successful. Some of the many highlights included watching the very beautiful White-headed Robin-Chat as it sat on the road in front of us eating emerging termites – what a bit of luck! Another unexpected sighting was seeing



**African Barred Owlet by Jonathan Rossouw**

Brazza's Martin!!! Two birds were initially watched for a few minutes, which then disappeared briefly before returning to give us more superb views. This was very unexpected and an added bonus, since it's a species that has only been seen by a handful of birders! Other interesting sightings included Wahlberg's Eagle, migrant Eurasian Hobby, Collared Pratincole, Blue-spotted Wood Dove, Meyer's Parrot, vocal Red-chested and African Cuckoos, African Scops Owl, cute African Barred Owlet, Narina Trogon, Blue-breasted Bee-eater, Black Scimitarbill, Anchieta's Barbet (remarkably common this year and a great catch up after having missed it at Mount Moco), African Broadbill displaying, Retz's Helmetshrike, Marsh Tchagra, White-breasted Cuckooshrike, hundreds of Red-throated Cliff Swallows building nests, Chirping Cisticola, Miombo Wren-Warbler, confiding Brown Illadopsis, dozens of Sharp-tailed Starling, Red-capped and Grey-winged Robin-Chats, Miombo Scrub Robin, Grey Tit-Flycatcher, beautiful Anchieta's Sunbird and Western Violet-backed and Bannerman's Sunbirds. On one evening we had a torrential



thunderstorm and used the opportunity so go out “frogging”, finding 10 frog species during the evening, including the unusual Guinea Shovel-nosed Frog.

Moving on, a stop en route to Quitexe saw us camping by some rapids, near Lucila. In this area we managed to find several Pale-billed Hornbills and Brown-headed Apalis amongst other notable species, including the spectacular Black Bee-eater, Shining-blue Kingfisher and Ross’s Turaco.

Our next few nights spent near Damengola Forest were very rewarding. Our main target here, the lovely Braun’s Bushshrike, was easily found on the first afternoon, again freeing up time to search for the myriad of forest species occurring in this area. Highlights included a pair of Hartlaub’s Duck, Western Banded Snake Eagle, superb scope views of both Afep and Western Bronze-naped Pigeons, perched Red-fronted Parrot, Guinea Turaco, Blue-headed Coucal, Blue Malkoha, two resplendent male African Emerald Cuckoos, Blue-throated Roller, African Pygmy Kingfisher, African Piculet, White-fronted and European Bee-eaters, Black-casqued Wattled Hornbills, Yellow-billed Barbet, Cassin’s Honeybird, a pair of Black-and-white Shrike-Flycatchers, male Chestnut Wattle-eye, Bocage’s Bushshrike, Pink-footed Puffback, superb Purple-throated Cuckooshrike, Velvet-mantled Drongo, Blue-headed Crested Flycatcher, Plain, Honeyguide and Swamp Palm Greenbuls, a confiding Yellow Longbill, Banded Prinia, Lowland Masked Apalis, Yellow-browed Camaroptera, Chestnut-winged and Narrow-tailed Starlings, Brown-backed Scrub Robin, Dusky-blue and Sooty Flycatchers, Yellow-mantled Weaver, a stunning and totally unafraid female Black-bellied Seedcracker, Red-headed Bluebill and Brown Twinspot. Whew! Simply great forest birding!



**Braun’s Bushshrike by Jonathan Rossouw**

Leaving the forests behind, we then headed for southern Kissama NP. En route we stopped at a fabulous wetland on the outskirts of Luanda and in quick time found African Openbill, Squacco Heron, huge Goliath Heron, African Fish Eagle, Black Crake, African Swampphen and Long-toed Lapwing, the latter of which occurs here as an isolated population.



**Black-casqued Wattled Hornbill by Markus Lilje**

Arriving at our comfortable secluded campsite in southern Kissama National Park, we settled in with mounting excitement at the prospects of some very exciting endemics the following morning. Sure enough, an early start saw us finding a pair of the very tricky Grey-striped Francolins right near our camp and, shortly afterwards, we ventured into some gallery forest where with little effort we were watching one of the rarest endemics, the social Gabela Helmetshrike! This flock entertained us for a good while, giving everyone outstanding views – and then, whilst still enjoying this sighting, another specialty in the form of Monteiro’s Bushshrike



appeared from the foliage, giving all outstanding scope views as well! Wonderful stuff! Other interesting species seen in the vicinity included Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye, Olive Bee-eater and Brown-backed Honeybird. Having encountered our targets in quick time, we set about searching for White-fronted Wattle-eye, which on our very first attempt at some suitable looking habitat resulted in a pair responding immediately. However, they were rather elusive and didn't show particularly well, so we tried a little further on and yet again "struck gold" – this time an obliging pair gave superlative views. What a successful morning, we couldn't have scripted it better! We then headed back to camp for a delicious cooked breakfast of bacon, eggs and toast, followed by a cup of hot coffee over which we reflected on a fabulous morning's birding.

Having now seen all of Angola's endemics and with plenty of time to spare, we decided to visit Musulu Lagoon in search of gulls, terns and waders. The mudflats and mangroves hosted a nice selection and we soon found flocks of Greater Flamingo, Western Osprey, Grey, Common Ringed, Kittlitz's and White-fronted Plovers, Whimbrel, Common Greenshank, Sanderling, Little Stint, Curlew Sandpiper, Grey-headed and Kelp Gulls, and Gull-billed, Caspian and Royal Terns.



Royal Terns by Markus Lilje

That afternoon we enjoyed a relaxing time near the beach with our camp set perfectly amongst some shady palms. What an idyllic setting this was for our final night, during which we enjoyed a delicious farewell dinner while sharing our stories over beers and wine around the campfire. Thereafter we settled in for a great night's sleep with the pleasant sound of the waves in the background. The next morning we stopped off at a nearby lodge to freshen up and have breakfast, before making our way to the airport for our departure flights home.

And so ended another fantastic trip to this seldom-visited endemic hotspot! Thanks must go to a wonderful group of enthusiastic and fun participants as well as a superb ground operations team. I am very much looking forward to travelling with you all again!

## **BIRDS** (a total of 530 species recorded)

**Birds:** Gill, F. and M.Wright. 2011. IOC Birds of the World: Recommended English Names. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press. Version 3.1 generated on 2012-05-04. When the taxonomy differs from that of Clement's, the Clement's name will be written in brackets or differences will be explained in a note below the species.

**E** = Endemic, **NE** = Near-endemic

### **Guineafowl Numididae**

#### **Helmeted Guineafowl**

*Numida meleagris*

Our first sighting was great views of a pair on the road in Damengola Forest with further good views of a flock of 30 near Kissama NP.



### Pheasants, Fowl & Allies Phasianidae

#### **Finsch's Francolin**

*Scleroptila finschi*

We had wonderful scope views of three adults and two chicks of this localized species near Mount Moco.

#### **Grey-striped Francolin (E)**

*Pternistis griseostriatus*

This is a very tricky species to see well. We were lucky to have good but very brief views of a pair near Kumbira Forest and a further pair in southern Kissama NP. A little known Angolan endemic.

#### **Swierstra's Francolin (E)**

*Pternistis swierstrai*

After a great deal of searching we were all rewarded with good views of one which flushed and showed well for the whole group near Tundavala.

#### **Hartlaub's Spurfowl (Francolin) (NE)**

*Pternistis hartlaubi*

We had magnificent scope views of a male near Benguela; this was at the northern edge of its range.

#### **Red-necked Spurfowl (Francolin)**

*Pternistis afer*

This is Angola's most widespread and commonly seen francolin. Our first sighting was of three on the road to Namibe, with a further sighting near Kumbira Forest and several more near Damengola Forest.

#### **Common Quail**

*Coturnix coturnix*

We had fantastic views of two near Mt. Moco.

#### **Blue Quail**

*Excalfactoria adansonii*

We had good views of one near Mt. Moco. This highly sought after species is generally a difficult bird to see.

### Ducks, Geese & Swans Anatidae

#### **White-faced Whistling Duck**

*Dendrocygna viduata*

We had good scope views of three and a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

#### **Knob-billed (Comb) Duck**

*Sarkidiornis melanotos*

We had good scope views of one at a dam near Tundavala and another at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

#### **Hartlaub's Duck**

*Pteronetta hartlaubi*

We had superb views of a pair at the crater lake near Quitexe. A leader only sighting.

#### **African Black Duck**

*Anas sparsa*

We had superb views of four at a dam near Tundavala, three at a river near Kumbira Forest and several at a crater lake south of Quitexe.

#### **Red-billed Teal**

*Anas erythrorhyncha*

A total of seven were seen at a dam near Tundavala.

### Grebes Podicipedidae

#### **Little Grebe**

*Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Eight were seen at a dam near Tundavala and several more at the crater lake south of Quitexe.

### Flamingos Phoenicopteridae

#### **Greater Flamingo**

*Phoenicopterus roseus*

We had good views of forty near Lobito and over one hundred on the mudflats at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

### Storks Ciconiidae



**African Openbill***Anastomus lamelligerus*

Our first sighting was of one near Lobito with a further flock of eight at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

**Black Stork***Ciconia nigra*

We had splendid views of one at Tundavala and the following day two were seen flying along the Leba escarpment.

**Ibises, Spoonbills Threskiornithidae****African Sacred Ibis***Threskiornis aethiopicus*

One bird was seen near Lobito and a further thirteen near Luanda.

*NOTE: The Malagasy T. e. bernieri and Aldabran T. e. abbotti are sometimes split off as Malagasy Sacred Ibis (T. bernieri)*

**Hérons, Bitterns Ardeidae****Striated Heron***Butorides striata*

We found one during the day trip to Namibe and a further two at a wetland near Kinjila village (Calandula).

**Squacco Heron***Ardeola ralloides*

A couple was seen near Lobito and later we enjoyed good scope views of twenty at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

**[Western] Cattle Egret***Bubulcus ibis*

This cosmopolitan species was seen at scattered sights throughout Angola.

*NOTE: This group is sometimes split into 2 species, the nominate Western Cattle Egret and the Asian/Australasian Eastern Cattle Egret (E. coromanda). This split is as yet not recognised by Clements.*

**Grey Heron***Ardea cinerea*

We recorded small numbers at scattered sights in Angola including good views of two in breeding plumage at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Black-headed Heron***Ardea melanocephala*

We recorded small numbers throughout Angola.

**Goliath Heron***Ardea goliath*

We had good scope views of one at a large wetland near Luanda.

**Purple Heron***Ardea purpurea*

We had good views scope views of one near Kinjila and small numbers at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

**Great Egret***Ardea alba*

We had good views of two at Lobito and several more at a large wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

**Little Egret***Egretta garzetta*

Our first sighting was of four near Lobito with scattered sightings elsewhere.

*NOTE: Clements lumps Little and Madagascar's Dimorphic (E. dimorpha) Egret into a single species. This treatment is not widely accepted.*

**Hamerkop Scopidae****Hamerkop***Scopus umbretta*

Seen daily in small numbers at Tundavala and at several other wetlands in the north.

**Cormorants Phalacrocoracidae****Reed (Long-tailed) Cormorant***Microcarbo africanus*

We enjoyed scattered sightings throughout the trip with a peak count of a dozen at the wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.



**White-breasted Cormorant***Phalacrocorax lucidus*

We had distant views of a large flock at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Darters Anhingidae****[African] Darter***Anhinga rufa*

Our first sighting was of one near Lobito and several more at the crater lake south of Quitexe.

*NOTE: The resident African form P. rufa is sometimes lumped with the Asian P. melanogaster and the enlarged species called Darter. Clements uses the latter treatment of lumping these forms.*

**Ospreys Pandionidae****[Western] Osprey***Pandion haliaetus*

We had good views of one at the crater lake south of Quitexe and superb views of another at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

*NOTE: Clements does not accept this split, it is lumped with Eastern Osprey P. cristatus as: Osprey P. haliaetus.*

**Kites, Hawks & Eagles Accipitridae****African Cuckoo-Hawk***Aviceda cuculoides*

One was seen well by some of the group at Tundavala and another at Tombingo Forest.

**Bat Hawk***Macheiramphus alcinus*

We had stunning views of one near Kumbira Forest.

**Black-winged (-shouldered) Kite***Elanus caeruleus*

Small numbers of this widespread raptor were seen at scattered sites throughout the tour.

*NOTE: Most authorities have split this into three species Black-winged Kite (E. caeruleus) of the Old World, Black-shouldered Kite (E. axillaris) of Australasia and White-tailed Kite (E. leucurus) of the New World.*

**Black Kite***Milvus migrans*

A fairly large flock of thirty birds was seen soaring near Kinjila.

**Yellow-billed (Black) Kite***Milvus aegyptius*

Small numbers were encountered at a few sites. Our highest count was twenty near Kinjila village.

*NOTE: This species is now accepted by most authorities. It has been split from Black Kite, M. migrans*

**African Fish Eagle***Haliaeetus vocifer*

One of these iconic African birds was seen at a large wetland near Luanda.

**Palmnut Vulture***Gypohierax angolensis*

This attractive vulture was first described from specimens originating in Angola, hence its scientific name. Common in Angola and we enjoyed almost daily sightings throughout the tour with peak numbers of up to twenty during the drive from Kumbira Forest to Tombingo Forest.

**Black-chested Snake Eagle***Circaetus pectoralis*

We had good views of one during the drive to Namibe and another during the drive from Benguela to Mt. Moco.

**Brown Snake Eagle***Circaetus cinereus*

We enjoyed good views of one near Mt. Moco and another during the drive from Damengola Forest to Kissama NP.

**Western Banded Snake Eagle***Circaetus cinerascens*

Our first sighting was of one at Mt. Moco and another was seen at Damengola Forest.

**Bateleur***Terathopius ecaudatus*

We enjoyed numerous sightings throughout the trip with peak numbers of ten daily in Kissama NP.

**African Marsh Harrier***Circus ranivorus*

Two birds were seen near Mount Moco, this is a rarely recorded species in Angola.

**African Harrier-Hawk (Gymnogene)***Polyboroides typus*

Our first sighting was near Tundavala with almost daily sightings thereafter.



**Dark Chanting Goshawk***Melierax metabates*

We had wonderful views of one near Mount Moco.

**Pale Chanting Goshawk***Melierax canorus*

We enjoyed good but distant views of one en route to Namibe. This is near the northern limit of its range.

**Gabar Goshawk***Micronisus gabar*

One was seen en route from Benguela to Mount Moco.

**African Goshawk***Accipiter tachiro*

This attractive forest raptor was seen on several days including good views at Kumbira Forest and later seen in Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

*NOTE: The West African forms are sometimes separated as Red-chested Goshawk (A. tousseneli).*

**Shikra***Accipiter badius*

One bird was seen en route from Benguela to Mt Moco.

*NOTE: We recorded the Southern Shikra A. b. polyzonoides which some authorities consider distinct from Northern Shikra A. b. sphenurus. These forms may also be split from the Asian nominate A. b. badius and other Asian forms. Clements does not as yet recognize any of these splits.*

**Little Sparrowhawk***Accipiter minullus*

One was seen briefly flying over the road during the drive from Tundavala to Benguela.

**Black Sparrowhawk***Accipiter melanoleucus*

An adult and juvenile were seen near Kinjila.

**Lizard Buzzard***Kaupifalco monogrammicus*

We had almost daily sightings of these attractive raptors during the tour.

**Red-necked Buzzard***Buteo auguralis*

We enjoyed wonderful sightings of four during the drive from Mount Moco to Kumbira Forest with further sightings at Damengola Forest south of Quitexe.

**Augur Buzzard***Buteo augur*

Several of this widespread species were seen at the Tundavala Escarpment.

**Verreaux's Eagle***Aquila verreauxii*

We enjoyed wonderful views of a pair during the day trip to Namibe.

**African Hawk-Eagle***Aquila spilogaster*

We enjoyed superb views of a pair en route to Namibe.

**Wahlberg's Eagle***Aquila wahlbergi*

We had good views of four in the Kinjila area, just north of Calandula.

**Booted Eagle***Hieraaetus pennatus*

Our first sighting was of one near Benguela and another was seen in the Kinjila area.

**Ayres's Hawk-Eagle***Hieraaetus ayresii*

One was seen at Tundavala by some of the group, another soaring near Kinjila and finally one perched bird near Quitexe.

**Martial Eagle***Polemaetus bellicosus*

We had superb views of one adult during the Namibe day trip.

**Long-crested Eagle***Lophaetus occipitalis*

We had wonderful sightings of 10 individuals at scattered sites throughout the tour.

**Falcons Falconidae****Rock Kestrel***Falco rupicolus*

We had a number of sightings throughout the trip with good views of several at Tundavala.

*NOTE: Clements has not split the distinctive Rock Kestrel, F. rupicolus of southern and central Africa, from the more widespread migrant Common Kestrel, F. tinnunculus. This split is accepted by most authorities.*

**Grey Kestrel***Falco ardosiaceus*

Our first sighting was of two during the drive from Tundavala to Benguela with one further sighting of one during the drive from Benguela to Mt. Moco.

**Eurasian Hobby** *Falco subbuteo*

One was seen very well near Kingila.

**African Hobby** *Falco cuvierii*

We had fantastic scope views of one at Kumbira Forest.

**Lanner Falcon** *Falco biarmicus*

We had cracking views of eight during the trip including superb sightings at Tundavala.

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus*

We had good but brief views of one at Calandula Falls.

### Bustards Otididae

**Ludwig's Bustard** *Neotis denhami*

We had superb views of two during our day trip to Namibe.

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

We had fantastic views of four birds at Mount Moco.

**Rüppell's Bustard** *Eupodotis rueppellii*

A fabulous three birds were seen near Namibe.

**Black-bellied Bustard (Korhaan)** *Lissotis melanogaster*

Two male were seen near Mount Moco and a further one in southern Kissama NP.

### Flufftails Sarothruridae

**White-spotted Flufftail** *Sarothrura pulchra*

We heard this species on a number of occasions near Kinjila village, north of Calandula.

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

We had good but brief views of a pair at Mount Moco.

### Rails, Crakes & Coots Rallidae

**Black Crake** *Amaurornis flavirostra*

We had good scope views of one at the crater lake south of Quitexe and a further two at a wetland near Luanda.

**African Swamphen** *Porphyrio madagascariensis*

We had wonderful views of twenty at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*

One was seen near Lobito with a further sighting of thirty at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

### Stilts, Avocets Recurvirostridae

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

Ten birds were seen near Lobito.

**Pied Avocet** *Recurvirostra avocetta*

We had wonderful views of over one hundred in Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

### Plovers Charadriidae

**Long-toed Lapwing** *Vanellus crassirostris*

We had great scope views of eight at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

**Senegal Lapwing** *Vanellus lugubris*

We heard several calling from our camp in southern Kissama NP.

**Crowned Lapwing** *Vanellus coronatus*



Three were seen during the drive from Tundavala to Benguela.

**African Wattled Lapwing** *Vanellus senegallus*

We had superb views of one near Mount Moco.

**Grey (Black-bellied) Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola*

We had superb scope views of thirty at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Common Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula*

We saw approximately fifty at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Kittlitz's Plover** *Charadrius pecuarius*

Two were seen at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**White-fronted Plover** *Charadrius marginatus*

We had superb scope views of up to sixty at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

### Jacanas Jacanidae

**African Jacana** *Actophilornis africanus*

Our first sighting was of two at the crater lake south of Quitexe. At least twenty were seen at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda.

### Sandpipers, Snipes Scolopacidae

**Bar-tailed Godwit** *Limosa lapponica*

We had stunning views of 48 at the Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*

We had good views of thirty at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Eurasian Curlew** *Numenius arquata*

We had wonderful views of one at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis*

We enjoyed superb views of two near Lobito.

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*

One was seen near Lobito and a further six at the Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*

One was seen at Lobito and another at a wetland near Luanda.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*

We enjoyed a number of scattered sightings throughout the trip.

**Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres*

We had superb scope views of twenty at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Sanderling** *Calidris alba*

We had good views of at least one hundred at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Little Stint** *Calidris minuta*

We had superb views of three hundred at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*

We had good views of seven hundred at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Ruff** *Philomachus pugnax*

We had good views of one near Lobito.

### Coursers, Pratincoles Glareolidae

**Collared Pratincole** *Glareola pratincola*

We had good views of one flying over the Lucala River near Calandula.

**Rock Pratincole** *Glareola nuchalis*



We had stunning scope views of three at the Lucala River and a further eight at the rapids near Lucila.

### Gulls, Terns & Skimmers Laridae

**Grey-headed Gull**

*Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus*

A flock of twenty was seen at the Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Kelp Gull**

*Larus dominicanus*

We had good views of three at the Musulu Lagoon, Luanda and a further fifteen at the Cuanza River mouth.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull**

*Larus fuscus*

Two birds were seen by some of the group at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Gull-billed Tern**

*Gelochelidon nilotica*

We had wonderful views of eight at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Caspian Tern**

*Hydroprogne caspia*

We had superb views of two at the Musulu Lagoon, Luanda and another at the Cuanza River mouth.

**Royal Tern**

*Thalasseus maximus*

Several hundred were seen at the Musulu Lagoon, Luanda and similar numbers at the Cuanza River mouth, a memorable sighting indeed!

**Sandwich Tern**

*Thalasseus sandvicensis*

We had great views of six at the Cuanza River mouth.

### Pigeons, Doves Columbidae

**Rock Dove**

*Columba livia*

Commonly encountered in most larger towns and cities.

**Afep Pigeon**

*Columba uncinata*

We had superb scope views of one perched and several others flying overhead at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

**African Olive Pigeon**

*Columba arquatrix*

We had superb views of one at Mt. Moco.

**Western Bronze-naped Pigeon**

*Columba iriditorques*

We had great scope views of one in Damengola Forest.

**Lemon Dove**

*Columba larvata*

We had good views of one in Tombingo Forest, N'Dalatando. This is a very rarely recorded species in Angola.

**Red-eyed Dove**

*Streptopelia semitorquata*

Several were seen during the day trip to Namibe and peak numbers of twenty daily in the Damengola area, with scattered sightings elsewhere.

**Ring-necked (Cape Turtle-) Dove**

*Streptopelia capicola*

Widespread and common throughout Angola (particularly in the drier woodlands) with a highest count of twenty birds en route to Lubango.

**Laughing (Palm) Dove**

*Spilopelia senegalensis*

Only recorded in western Angola in small numbers.

**Emerald-spotted Wood Dove**

*Turtur chalcospilos*

First recorded *en route* to Namibe and commonly seen thereafter.

**Blue-spotted Wood Dove**

*Turtur afer*

Peak numbers of three were seen in Damengola Forest.

**Tambourine Dove**

*Turtur tympanistria*



We recorded small numbers at Kumbira Forest, near Kinjila and peak numbers of ten at Damengola.

**Namaqua Dove** *Oena capensis*

We recorded eight of these delightful doves during the Namibe day trip.

**African Green Pigeon** *Treron calvus*

This attractive frugivore was seen at most forest sites throughout the trip.

### Parrots Psittacidae

**Rosy-faced Lovebird (NE)** *Agapornis roseicollis*

We enjoyed wonderful sightings of six during the day trip to Namibe.

**Red-fronted Parrot** *Poicephalus gulielmi*

Up to six were seen daily at Tombingo Forest, south of N'Dalatando. Up to seven were seen daily at Damengola Forest where we also enjoyed fabulous scope views of a confiding individual.

**Meyer's Parrot** *Poicephalus meyeri*

We had great views of four near Kinjila village, north of Calandula.

**Rüppell's Parrot (NE)** *Poicephalus rueppellii*

A superb seven birds were seen during the Namibe day trip. A localized species endemic to Namibia and Angola.

### Turacos Musophagidae

**Great Blue Turaco** *Corythaeola cristata*

We had good views of four of these impressive birds at Tombingo Forest and daily sightings of a couple at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

**Guinea Turaco** *Tauraco persa*

After some effort we had great views of one at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

**Schalow's Turaco** *Tauraco schalowi*

We had superb views of eight of these stunning birds sporting their elongated crests, at Mount Moco.

**Red-crested Turaco (E)** *Tauraco erythrolophus*

We had excellent views of this, the most spectacular of the Angolan endemics, at Kumbira Forest. We were also fortunate to see seven birds perched up in a large *Albizia* tree near Kinjila. A fabulous bird indeed and commonly encountered in the forest, more often heard than seen.

**Ross's Turaco** *Musophaga rossae*

We had brief views of one on the drive north from Kinjila and later a pair near the cascades near Lucila.

**Grey Go-away-bird (Lourie)** *Corythaixoides concolor*

Up to twenty birds were observed during the day trip to Namibe and a further twenty seen daily in Kissama NP.

### Cuckoos Cuculidae

**Gabon Coucal** *Centropus anselli*

A very elusive species which we heard at numerous sites and some of us were fortunate to see one very briefly at Kumbira Forest.

**Senegal Coucal** *Centropus senegalensis*

We had good views of one in Damengola Forest.

**Blue-headed Coucal** *Centropus monachus*

We had cracking views of one near Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

**Coppery-tailed Coucal** *Centropus cupreicaudus*



We had a great sighting of one near Mount Moco and another in the Calandula area.

**White-browed Coucal** *Centropus superciliosus*

We had a couple of sightings in the Kinjila area and several more in southern Kissama NP.

*NOTE: Clements does not recognize the split of the southern dark-browed Burchell's Coucal C. burchelli from the northerly White-browed Coucal C. superciliosus. We recorded the latter form.*

**Blue Malkoha (Yellowbill)** *Ceuthmochares aereus*

This skulking species was initially seen very briefly in Kumbira Forest and later we enjoyed stunning scope views of one in Damengola Forest.

*NOTE: Yellowbill is sometimes split into two species, Green Malkoha (C. australis) occurring in southeastern Africa and Blue Malkoha (C. aereus) of Central and Western Africa. We observed the latter form. Clements does not recognize this split.*

**Great Spotted Cuckoo** *Clamator glandarius*

We had a great sighting of two of these impressive cuckoos at Mount Moco.

**Levaillant's Cuckoo** *Clamator levaillantii*

We heard this species near Kinjila, north of Calandula.

**Thick-billed Cuckoo** *Pachycoccyx audeberti*

We heard this species on two occasions, the first near Kinjila and again at Damengola Forest.

**Klaas's Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx klaas*

This smart green cuckoo was seen at a number of forest sites including Kumbira Forest.

**African Emerald Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx cupreus*

This resplendent forest and forest edge species was seen at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe. We enjoyed superb scope views of two males.

**Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo** *Cercococcyx mechowi*

We heard several calling at Damengola Forest.

**Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo** *Cercococcyx olivinus*

We heard one calling from some gallery forest near Lucila.

**Black Cuckoo** *Cuculus clamosus*

We heard several near Kinjila village, north of Calandula.

**Red-chested Cuckoo** *Cuculus solitarius*

We had superb scope views of one near Kinjila village and heard several others.

**African Cuckoo** *Cuculus gularis*

We had good views of one near Calandula.

### Barn Owls Tytonidae

**African Grass Owl** *Tyto capensis*

We had simply incredible views of two birds which flushed out of long grass and flew straight towards us at Mount Moco and amazingly we found another pair near the Lucala River.

### Owls Strigidae

**African Scops Owl** *Otus senegalensis*

We had superb views of one near Kinjila village, just north of Calandula.

**Spotted Eagle-Owl** *Bubo africanus*

We heard one calling at Mount Moco.

**African Wood Owl** *Strix woodfordii*

We heard one calling at Kumbira Forest.

**Pearl-spotted Owlet** *Glaucidium perlatum*

We had wonderful scope views of one during the drive from Tundavala to Benguela.

**African Barred Owlet** *Glaucidium capense*

We had superb scope views of one near Kinjila village, north of Calandula.



### Nightjars Caprimulgidae

- Fiery-necked Nightjar** *Caprimulgus pectoralis*  
A bird was heard and briefly seen en route to Kumbira Forest.
- Freckled Nightjar** *Caprimulgus tristigma*  
One was heard calling at Tundavala.

### Swifts Apodidae

- Mottled Spinetail** *Telacanthura ussheri*  
We had superb views of 3 at Kumbira Forest several daily in Damengola Forest.
- Böhm's (Bat-like) Spinetail** *Neafrapus boehmi*  
Our first sighting was superb views of one during the Namibe day trip, this was followed by great views of fifteen en route from Lubango to Benguela and a further two in south Kissama NP.
- African Palm Swift** *Cypsiurus parvus*  
Fairly common in any area where large palms occur and recorded almost daily.
- Alpine Swift** *Tachymarptis melba*  
Small numbers of these huge swifts were seen at the Tundavala Escarpment and several more on the Leba Scarp.
- Mottled Swift** *Telacanthura ussheri*  
At least six birds were seen at Mount Moco.
- Common Swift** *Apus apus*  
We had good views of fifty near Kinjila.
- Swift sp (NE)** *Apus sp.*  
We recorded small numbers of huge dark swifts daily over Kissama NP. These swifts are quite distinctive, huge, all dark swifts. They appear the size of Mottled Swift but are somewhat darker and have a different call. Further investigation may reveal a new species of swift.
- Swift sp** *Apus sp.*  
We recorded a large flock of grey brown swifts at Mount Moco. They most closely resembled Bradfield's Swifts, being about the same size but were slightly more brown in colour. As far as I am aware none of these swifts have been collected and there are no specimens. This is almost certainly another new species.
- Fernando Po Swift** *Apus sladeniae*  
We observed a large flock of dark swifts at Mount Moco. These swifts are quite distinctive being all dark with pale secondaries and are similar in size to African Swift. Their calls clearly differ from typical African Swifts.  
*NOTE: Clements does not recognize the split of Fernando Po Swift A. sladeniae from the widespread African Swift A. barbatus.*
- Bradfield's Swift (NE)** *Apus bradfieldi*  
We had a nice flock of twenty at the Tundavala Escarpment.
- Little Swift** *Apus affinis*  
Seen at many localities, peak numbers of forty were recorded near Calandula.
- White-rumped Swift** *Apus caffer*  
We enjoyed scattered sightings throughout the tour with good views of several in Kissama NP.

### Mousebirds Coliidae

- Speckled Mousebird** *Colius striatus*  
We had good views of small numbers at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.
- Red-backed Mousebird (E)** *Colius castanotus*



We had superb sightings of many including good views of six at Tundavala. The commonest of the Angolan endemics.

**Red-faced Mousebird***Urocolius indicus*

Flocks of these social mousebirds were fairly common, first seen around Tundavala with further sightings in the dry country of Kissama NP.

**Trogon Trogonidae****Narina Trogon***Apaloderma narina*

Our first sighting was brief views of a male in the gallery forest near Kinjila and later we enjoyed superb scope views of a male at Damengola Forest.

**Rollers Coraciidae****Purple (Rufous-crowned) Roller***Coracias naevius*

We had great views of one during the drive from Benguela to Mount Moco.

**Lilac-breasted Roller***Coracias caudatus*

Several of these stunning birds were seen en route from Benguela to Mount Moco and in Kissama NP. One of Africa's trademark birds!

*NOTE: The Ethiopian C. c. lorti might be split as Blue-breasted Roller.*

**Blue-throated Roller***Eurystomus gularis*

We had cracking views of eight at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

**Broad-billed Roller***Eurystomus glaucurus*

We had great views of eight near Kinjila village, north of Calandula.

**Kingfishers Alcedinidae****Chocolate-backed Kingfisher***Halcyon badia*

We heard one in Damengola Forest and another near the crater lake, south of Quitexe.

**Brown-hooded Kingfisher***Halcyon albiventris*

We had a number of good sightings including two near Kinjila and a further two in Kissama NP.

**Striped Kingfisher***Halcyon chelicuti*

We enjoyed several sightings including good views during the day trip to Namibe and daily sightings near Kinjila.

**Blue-breasted Kingfisher***Halcyon malimbica*

This large forest kingfisher was heard in dense mangroves along the Cuanza River and again near Kinjila. Some of us saw one during the drive to Lucila.

**Woodland Kingfisher***Halcyon senegalensis*

We had great sightings of a couple near Kumbira Forest and several daily at Damengola Forest.

**African Pygmy Kingfisher***Ispidina picta*

This woodland haunting kingfisher was well seen in Kumbira Forest with further sightings at Damengola Forest.

**Malachite Kingfisher***Corythornis cristatus*

One of the brilliant river-dwelling kingfishers was seen during our trip to Namibe with scattered sightings elsewhere.

**Shining-blue Kingfisher***Alcedo quadribrachys*

We had superb scope views of one during the drive north to Lucila.

**Giant Kingfisher***Megaceryle maxima*

We had great sightings of one at the crater lake near Quitexe and another during the drive from Damengola Forest to Luanda.

**Pied Kingfisher***Ceryle rudis*

Small numbers were seen at a wetland on the outskirts of Luanda and several at the Cuanza River mouth.

### Bee-eaters Meropidae

#### **Black Bee-eater**

*Merops gularis*

One of these spectacular birds was seen en route from Kinjila to Lucila.

#### **Swallow-tailed Bee-eater**

*Merops hirundineus*

A flock of eight was seen during the day trip to Namibe.

#### **Little Bee-eater**

*Merops pusillus*

Seen almost daily throughout Angola.

#### **Blue-breasted Bee-eater**

*Merops variegatus*

We had good views of a pair near the Lucala River, Calandula.

#### **White-fronted Bee-eater**

*Merops bullockoides*

A pair was seen daily around our camp at the crater lake south of Quitexe.

#### **Olive (Madagascar) Bee-eater**

*Merops superciliosus*

Three were seen in southern Kissama NP.

#### **European Bee-eater**

*Merops apiaster*

A flock of eight was seen flying low over the crater lake south of Quitexe with scattered sightings elsewhere.

### Hoopoes Upupidae

#### **African (Eurasian) Hoopoe**

*Upupa africana*

We had good views of two during the Namibe day trip and a further two near Kinjila.

*NOTE: The Hoopoe complex has had a confusing taxonomic history, with one to four species being recognised by various authorities. Clements splits the group into two forms, Madagascar (U. marginalis) and Eurasian U. epops. The white-winged African form is often split by other authorities as West African Hoopoe (U. senegalensis) with the fourth species, the one we observed, being African Hoopoe (U. africana). However, the most generally accepted treatment is that of three species, Madagascar, Eurasian and African.*

### Wood Hoopoes Phoeniculidae

#### **Green Wood Hoopoe**

*Phoeniculus purpureus*

Small numbers were seen daily in southern Kissama NP.

#### **Black Scimitarbill**

*Rhinopomastus aterrimus*

A pair was seen well near Kinjila, Calandula.

#### **Common Scimitarbill**

*Rhinopomastus cyanomelas*

We had good views of two during the day trip to Namibe.

### Hornbills Bucerotidae

#### **Crowned Hornbill**

*Tockus alboterminatus*

We enjoyed good sightings daily whilst in Kumbira Forest and near Kinjila.

#### **African Pied Hornbill**

*Tockus fasciatus*

We had great sightings of up to ten at Tombingo Forest, south of N'Dalatando and again daily sightings at Damengola Forest south of Quitexe.

#### **Pale-billed Hornbill**

*Tockus pallidirostris*

Four birds were seen during the drive from Kinjila to Lucila.

#### **Monteiro's Hornbill**

*Tockus monteiri*

We had superb views of several during the day trip to Namibe. A few were also seen near the northern edge of their range near Benguela.

#### **Damara Red-billed Hornbill (NE)**

*Tockus damarensis*



Two of this dark-eyed, white faced hornbill was seen in dry country near Namibe by some of the group.

*NOTE: Some authorities split the Red-billed Hornbill complex into 5 full species, nominate Northern from northern Tanzania to Mali, Damara T. damarensis of northern Namibia and southern Angola, Southern T. rufirostris of southern and south-central Africa, Tanzanian T. ruahae of central Tanzania and Western T. kempfi of Senegambia. Clements does not recognize these splits.*

**Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill (NE)** *Tockus leucomelas*

Up to twenty daily were seen in Kissama NP and others in the dry area en route to Namibe.

*NOTE: The smaller Angolan dry-country form of this widespread species may represent a new species of hornbill based on differences in soft parts, plumage and vocalization.*

**Piping Hornbill** *Bycanistes fistulator*

We had great views of several at Tombingo Forest south of N'Dalatando and up to twenty daily at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

**Trumpeter Hornbill** *Bycanistes bucinator*

We had good views of four in Kumbira Forest. This species appears to be rarely recorded in the area.

**Black-casqued Wattled Hornbill** *Ceratogymna atrata*

We had fabulous views of four of these huge hornbills in Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

### Ground Hornbills Bucorvidae

**Southern Ground Hornbill** *Bucorvus leadbeateri*

Some of the group heard this species calling near Mount Moco.

### African Barbets Lybiidae

**Naked-faced Barbet** *Gymnobucco calvus*

We had superb views of one at Kumbira Forest and up to six at Tombingo Forest, south of N'Dalatando and a further dozen at Damengola Forest south of Quitexe.

**Anchieta's Barbet** *Stactolaema anchietae*

A splendid three birds were seen in the woodland near Kinjila village, north of Calandula.

**Speckled Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus scolopaceus*

We had good views of two at Damengola Forest.

**Western Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus coryphaeus*

We had great scope views of two on Mount Moco.

**Yellow-rumped (Golden-rumped) Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus bilineatus*

This widespread species was seen at Kumbira Forest, Tombingo Forest and near Kinjila village.

**Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus chrysoconus*

This dry woodland species was seen at Tundavala and during the day trip to Namibe.

**Hairy-breasted Barbet** *Tricholaema hirsuta*

Four birds were seen with others heard at Kumbira Forest. The Kumbira birds represent an isolated population not recorded in any pre war literature.

*NOTE: This species is sometimes split into two species, the nominate form restricted to Upper Guinea and Streaky-throated Barbet T. flavipunctata of west-central Africa. We recorded the latter form.*

**Acacia Pied Barbet (NE)** *Tricholaema leucomelas*

A couple was seen during the day trip to Namibe and another seen near Benguela.

**Black-collared Barbet** *Lybius torquatus*

We had great views of two at Tundavala.

**Black-backed Barbet** *Lybius minor*

We had superb views of one at Mount Moco and another was seen by Ulrik near Lucila.

**Yellow-billed Barbet** *Trachyphonus purpuratus*



This strange forest barbet with a deep hooting call was seen briefly at Kumbira Forest and later three were seen very well at Damengola Forest.

### Honeyguides Indicatoridae

**Cassin's Honeybird** *Prodotiscus insignis*

We had good views of one in Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

**Brown-backed Honeybird** *Prodotiscus regulus*

The first sighting was of one at Tundavala, seen by some of the group with a further stunning sighting allowing for scope views of one in southern Kissama NP.

**Pallid Honeyguide** *Indicator meliphilus*

We had good scope views of one at Kumbira Forest.

**Least Honeyguide** *Indicator exilis*

One was seen by some of the group near Kinjila, Calandula.

**Greater Honeyguide** *Indicator indicator*

One was seen briefly during the drive from Kumbira to Tombingo.

### Woodpeckers Picidae

**African Piculet** *Sasia africana*

We had stunning views of one in Damengola Forest.

**Bennett's Woodpecker** *Campethera bennettii*

One was seen near Mount Moco and another heard at Kinjila.

**Golden-tailed Woodpecker** *Campethera abingoni*

One bird was seen very well near Benguela and a further pair near the rapids near Lucila.

**Green-backed Woodpecker** *Campethera cailliautii*

Our first sightings were in Tombingo Forest, south of N'Dalatando where we enjoyed cracking scope views of one. A further two were seen at Damengola Forest south of Quitexe.

**Buff-spotted Woodpecker** *Campethera nivosa*

We had superb views of one in Kumbira Forest.

**Brown-eared Woodpecker** *Campethera caroli*

Our first sighting was of one in Kumbira Forest followed by one in Tombingo Forest and a final sighting of one in Damengola Forest.

**Cardinal Woodpecker** *Dendropicos fuscescens*

A female of this widespread woodland species was observed at Tundavala and again near Kinjila.

**Yellow-crested Woodpecker** *Dendropicos xantholophus*

We enjoyed great sightings at Tombingo Forest, near N'Dalatando and at Damengola Forest.

**Elliot's Woodpecker** *Dendropicos elliotii*

We enjoyed good views of one in Kumbira Forest.

### Broadbills Eurylaimidae

**African Broadbill** *Smithornis capensis*

Another highlight of the trip was of a male performing its circular display flight, near Kinjila. We had the scope trained on it and obtained superb views. Our other sighting was of good but brief views of a male in Kumbira Forest. This is often a very tricky species to see.

### Wattle-eyes, Batises Platysteiridae

**African Shrike-flycatcher** *Megabyas flammulatus*

A pair was seen by some of the group at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

**Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher** *Bias musicus*



We had superb views of a pair at Damengola Forest.

**Margaret's Batis (NE)** *Batis margaritae*

We had superb views of a male on Mount Moco.

**Chinspot Batis** *Batis molitor*

Our first sighting was of two at Tundavala followed by two near Mount Moco.

**Pririt Batis** *Batis pririt*

We had good views of several during the day trip to Namibe and a further pair near Benguela.

**Angola Batis (NE)** *Batis minulla*

Several birds were seen at Kumbira Forest and Kissama NP, a lovely little batis with a very pretty song.

**White-tailed Shrike (NE)** *Lanioturdus torquatus*

This stunning dry-country bird was commonly encountered during the day trip to Namibe. Another species traditionally regarded as only to be seen in Namibia.

**Chestnut Wattle-eye** *Platysteira castanea*

We had good but brief views of a male in Tombingo Forest. Another male was seen at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

**Black-throated Wattle-eye** *Platysteira peltata*

We had great views of a pair at Mount Moco, and another near Kinjila.

**White-fronted Wattle-eye (E)** *Platysteira albifrons*

We had to work a little for this one, but as is often the case once you see the first one then there seem to be loads around. We enjoyed sightings of two pairs in Kissama NP.

**Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye** *Platysteira concreta*

Four were seen in Kumbira Forest, a real beauty that showed fairly well. Several others were seen in gallery forest in southern Kissama NP.

### Helmetshrikes Prionopidae

**White-crested Helmetshrike** *Prionops plumatus*

A flock of eight was seen at Tundavala by some of the group.

**Retz's Helmetshrike** *Prionops retzii*

We had good views of a dozen near Kinjila.

**Gabela (Angola) Helmetshrike (E)** *Prionops gabela*

This was certainly one of the prize finds of our tour, a species previously only seen by a select few people. We had great views of a flock of five of these attractive Helmetshrikes in a dry riverbed in southern Kissama NP. A total of fourteen birds were seen in the area.

### Bushshrikes Malaconotidae

**Monteiro's Bushshrike (NE)** *Malaconotus monteiri*

After some effort we located a rather elusive individual in Kumbira Forest. Later we had magnificent scope views of this smart bushshrike in southern Kissama NP. This was certainly one of the highlights of the trip!

**Grey-headed Bushshrike** *Malaconotus blanchoti*

This huge woodland bushshrike was seen exceptionally well in the woodland near Kinjila.

**Bocage's (Gray-green) Bushshrike** *Chlorophoneus bocagei*

We enjoyed good views of a pair at Damengola Forest.

**Orange-breasted Bushshrike** *Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus*

This attractive species with a very distinctive call was first seen at Tundavala with further sightings during the day trip to Namibe and at Kumbira Forest.

**Gorgeous (Perrin's) Bushshrike (NE)** *Telophorus viridis*



Another shockingly beautiful bushshrike that was observed at Mount Moco and in Kumbira Forest. This localized form occurs only in remote parts of Africa and is difficult to observe.

*NOTE: This species is currently lumped by Clements with Four-coloured Bushshrike (T. quadricolor) of East and Southern Africa. Most authorities regard these birds as separate species.*

**Marsh (Anchieta's) Tchagra** *Bocagia minuta*

Our first sighting was of one near Kumbira Forest. We later enjoyed several more in the grasslands near the Lucala River, Calandula.

**Brown-crowned Tchagra** *Tchagra australis*

We had great views of one at Tundavala and another near Kinjila.

**Black-crowned Tchagra** *Tchagra senegalus*

A couple was seen near Mount Moco and a further two at Kinjila.

**Pink-footed Puffback** *Dryoscopus angolensis*

This generally uncommon forest puffback was pleasantly common in Kumbira Forest and we enjoyed good views on numerous occasions with further sightings in Damengola Forest.

**Black-backed Puffback** *Dryoscopus cubla*

Seen virtually daily in small numbers throughout the trip.

**Braun's Bushshrike (E)** *Laniarius brauni*

A magnificent pair was seen exceptionally well at Damengola Forest. This was certainly one of the highlights of the trip and was voted bird of the trip by some participants! A species which has been seen by only a handful of birders!

**Gabela Bushshrike (E)** *Laniarius amboimensis*

This attractive endemic was only heard twice in Kumbira Forest, we were fortunate to enjoy stunning views of one.

*NOTE: This species of the Gabela or Southern Angolan scarp and Braun's Bushshrike L. brauni were lumped with the similar Luehder's Bushshrike L. luehderi. This three way split is now recognized by most authorities.*

**Tropical Boubou** *Laniarius major*

We enjoyed good views of two at Mount Moco.

**Swamp (Gabon) Boubou** *Laniarius bicolor*

A common bird to hear but sometimes a very difficult species to observe, we had good sightings near Benguela, Kinjila and again in Kissama NP.

**Brubru** *Nilaus afer*

We had good views of two at Tundavala of the distinctive *affinis* race which lacks any rufous.

### Cuckooshrikes Campephagidae

**White-breasted Cuckooshrike** *Coracina pectoralis*

Two were seen in the miombo woodland near Kinjila.

**Black Cuckooshrike** *Campephaga flava*

We had good views of several in the Kinjila area.

**Petit's Cuckooshrike** *Campephaga petiti*

A female was seen in Kumbira Forest and another in Damengola Forest. The females are particularly distinctive.

**Purple-throated Cuckooshrike** *Campephaga quiscalina*

We enjoyed four sightings of this normally scarce species at Damengola Forest.

### Shrikes Laniidae

**Southern White-crowned Shrike** *Eurocephalus anguitimens*

Three were seen during the drive from Mount Moco to Kumbira and several in Kissama NP.

**Northern Fiscal (Shrike)** *Lanius humeralis*

We had good views of several in the Kinjila and Damengola Forest areas.



NOTE: Common Fiscal has recently been split by IOC. Northern Fiscal, *L. humeralis* occurs in Sub-saharan Africa south to Southern Africa. Southern Fiscal, *L. collaris* is virtually restricted to Southern Africa. We recorded both species during this tour. Clements does not accept this split.

**Southern Fiscal (Shrike)***Lanius collaris*

We recorded small numbers of the race *subcoronatus* during the trip to Namibe.

NOTE: The form *L. marwitzi* is sometimes split off as Uhehe Fiscal occurring in East Africa.

**Orioles Oriolidae****Black-headed Oriole***Oriolus larvatus*

This widespread woodland species was observed almost daily and included good views of several in Kumbira Forest.

**Black-winged Oriole***Oriolus nigripennis*

We had superb scope views of several at Tombingo Forest and again in Damengola Forest.

**Drongos Dicruridae****Square-tailed Drongo***Dicrurus ludwigii*

We saw two birds in the gallery forest at Kinjila, Calandula and a couple in Damengola Forest.

**Fork-tailed Drongo***Dicrurus adsimilis*

This species was seen virtually daily throughout the trip.

NOTE: The forest dwelling Velvet-mantled Drongo, *D. modestus* of East and West Africa is now split from Fork-tailed Drongo *D. adsimilis*.

**Velvet-mantled Drongo***Dicrurus modestus*

We had good views of up to six daily in Damengola Forest.

**Monarchs Monarchidae****Blue-headed Crested Flycatcher***Trochocercus nitens*

A male of this scarce, skulking bird was seen at Kumbira Forest and another in Damengola Forest.

**Rufous-vented Paradise Flycatcher***Terpsiphone rufocinerea*

We had good views of several in Kumbira Forest and at Damengola Forest.

**African Paradise Flycatcher***Terpsiphone viridis*

We enjoyed several sightings near Mount Moco and again at Kinjila.

**Crows, Jays Corvidae****Cape (Black) Crow***Corvus capensis*

Two seen during the drive to Namibe by some of the group.

**Pied Crow***Corvus albus*

Regularly seen in small numbers throughout Angola with highest count of 50+ around Luanda.

**Fairy Flycatchers Stenostiridae****African Blue Flycatcher***Elminia longicauda*

This lovely bird was first encountered in Kumbira Forest with a further three seen in Damengola Forest.

**White-tailed Blue Flycatcher***Elminia albicauda*

We had good views of one near Mount Moco.

**Tits Paridae****White-winged Black Tit***Parus leucomelas*

One was seen well near the rapids near Lucila and two near Damengola Forest.



**Carp's Tit (NE)***Parus carpi*

This Namibian and Angolan endemic was first seen *en route* to Namibe where we enjoyed great views of one. A further two were seen near Benguela.

**Dusky Tit***Parus funereus*

We enjoyed good views of four birds at Kumbira Forest, a scarce bird this far south. These distinctive birds belong to a long-isolated race *gabela* restricted to the Gabela Scarp forests.

**Rufous-bellied Tit***Parus rufiventris*

We had great views of one of these striking birds on Mount Moco.

**Miombo Tit***Parus griseiventris*

We had good but brief views of one on Mount Moco.

**Ashy Tit***Parus cinerascens*

We had good views of a pair during the day trip to Namibe.

**Penduline Tits Remizidae****Grey Penduline Tit***Anthoscopus caroli*

We heard one during the drive from Tundavala to Benguela south and two were seen by some near Benguela.

**Cape Penduline Tit***Anthoscopus minutus*

Two were seen by some at the Tundavala escarpment.

**Nicators Nicatoridae****Yellow-throated Nicator***Nicator vireo*

We enjoyed excellent views of this very attractive diminutive Nicator at Kumbira Forest and again at Tombingo Forest. This is one of the Angolan specials as it is very rarely seen anywhere outside of Angola, however in Kumbira it is very common, vocal and easy to see.

**Larks Alaudidae****Rufous-naped Lark***Mirafra africana*

We enjoyed good scope views of several at Tundavala.

*NOTE: The Rufous-naped Lark is divided by Clements into twenty-three subspecies throughout most of Africa. Several of the northern forms have been proposed as full species including Sharpe's Lark *M. sharpii* of Somalia and Malbrant's Lark *M. malbranti* of Central Africa.*

**Angola Lark (NE)***Mirafra angolensis*

We had wonderful views of three in the grasslands around Mount Moco and another was seen during the drive from Lucila to Quitexe.

**Flappet Lark***Mirafra africana*

We had good views of one displaying over the grasslands en route from Lucila to Quitexe.

**Sabota Lark (NE)***Calendulauda sabota*

We had good views of one during the day trip to Namibe and two near Benguela.

*NOTE: The western races of Sabota Lark are sometimes considered a separate species, Bradfield's Lark *M. bradfieldi* and the form we saw in Angola would fall into this grouping. This split is not recognized by most authorities.*

**Benguela Long-billed Lark (NE)***Certhilauda benguelensis*

Twenty of these extremely localized larks (only occurring in seldom visited far-northern Namibia and southern Angola) were observed in the gravel plains east of Namibe.

**Spike-heeled Lark***Chersomanes albofasciata*

We had great views of four in the arid areas near Namibe.

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

We had good views of two at Mount Moco.

**Stark's Lark***Spizocorys starki*

We had good but brief views of five during the day trip to Namibe.

### **Bulbuls Pycnonotidae**

**African Red-eyed (Black-fronted) Bulbul (NE)** *Pycnonotus nigricans*

This dry country southern bulbul was recorded in the scrub at the base of the Leba Scarp en route to Namibe.

**Dark-capped (Black-eyed) Bulbul** *Pycnonotus tricolor*

Recorded daily at all locations visited in Angola, highest count of 50+ on the edge of Kumbira Forest.

*NOTE: Another very confusing polytypic species complex. Several Asian and African forms have already been recognised as distinct species within the super-species Common Bulbul P. barbatus. The form that we saw in Angola, P. tricolor has been split as Dark-capped Bulbul by some authorities. Clements does not recognize this split.*

**Slender-billed Greenbul** *Stelgidillas gracilirostris*

We had good views of this canopy species at Damengola Forest.

**Little Greenbul** *Eurillas virens*

This usually common forest edge greenbul was only seen on a few occasions, a few seen at Kinjila and a further two in Damengola Forest.

**Plain Greenbul** *Eurillas curvirostris*

Small numbers were seen at Tombingo and Damengola Forests.

**Yellow-whiskered Bulbul** *Eurillas latirostris*

Several birds were seen in Kumbira Forest where its chattering call was commonly encountered.

**Honeyguide Greenbul** *Baeopogon indicator*

He had good but brief views of two in Damengola Forest.

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

This large noisy greenbul was seen during our day trip to Namibe and also observed in good numbers in Kumbira Forest. This was one of the commonest birds in Kumbira Forest and we recorded in excess of 6 during a full day in the forest.

**Falkenstein's (Yellow-necked) Greenbul** *Chlorocichla falkensteini*

This species was seen regularly during our time in Kumbira Forest.

**Yellow-throated Leaflove** *Atimastillas flavicollis*

We had good views of three in the gallery forest at Kinjila and again in Damengola Forest.

**Swamp Palm Bulbul** *Thescelocichla leucopleura*

We had superb scope views of two at Damengola Forest.

**Pale-olive Greenbul (NE)** *Phyllastrephus fulviventris*

We had superb views of four of this little known Angolan near-endemic at Kumbira Forest. It is far more attractive than illustrations show.

**Cabanis's Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus cabanisi*

After a good deal of effort we finally got brief views of one on Mount Moco and later a further two were seen near the rapids near Lucila.

**Black-collared Bulbul** *Neolestes torquatus*

We had good scope views of two near Mount Moco with further sightings of two at Kumbira Forest and two near Kinjila. A highly sought after species and not common anywhere.

### **Swallows, Martins Hirundinidae**

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

Small numbers of these forest edge swallows were seen around Kumbira Forest, Mount Moco and at Kinjila.

*NOTE: The "black" saw-wing complex, which occurs throughout Sub-Saharan Africa, has recently been lumped into a single species by most authorities.*



**Grey-rumped Swallow***Pseudhirundo griseopyga*

We had good views of several at Tundavala and a couple more at Mount Moco and Kinjila.

**Brazza's Martin***Phedina brazzae*

We had wonderful views of two in Malanje province. Only a couple of tours have been fortunate to see this species in Angola. It was only found to occur in the country for the first time in 2010. Yet another highlight of this superb trip!

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

A couple was seen at Tundavala.

**Banded Martin***Riparia cincta*

A couple was seen near Mount Moco and later we enjoyed good views of several near Damengola Forest.

**Barn Swallow***Hirundo rustica*

About six birds were seen near Tundavala.

**Angola Swallow***Hirundo angolensis*

We had good views of small numbers on an almost daily basis. A few were seen nesting at the rapids near Lucila.

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

We had good views of six at Tundavala and several more during the drive from Damengola to Kissama NP.

**Black-and-rufous Swallow***Hirundo nigrorufa*

We had superb views of this magnificent swallow at Mount Moco. We observed at least six over three days in the area. What a beauty and certainly one of the highlights of the trip!

**Pearl-breasted Swallow***Hirundo dimidiata*

We had good views of two flying along the upper parts of Mount Moco.

**Rock Martin***Ptyonoprogne fuligula*

Over fifty were seen during one day in the Tundavala area.

*NOTE: This confusing polytypic complex is being reviewed for multi-species splitting. Within the African populations, two potential species exist. The southern African nominate form *P. fuligula* would remain as Rock Martin (including the birds we saw in Angola) and the north African birds would become Pale Crag Martin, *P. obsolata*. Clements does not as yet recognise this split.*

**Greater Striped Swallow***Cecropis cucullata*

Up to thirty were seen at Tundavala.

**Lesser Striped Swallow***Cecropis abyssinica*

Another commonly seen hirundine, we had virtually daily sightings throughout the trip.

**Red-breasted Swallow***Cecropis semirufa*

A couple was seen over the grasslands en route from Lucila to Quitexe.

**Mosque Swallow***Cecropis senegalensis*

A pair was seen at Mount Moco and a further pair near Kumbira Forest.

**Red-throated Cliff Swallow***Petrochelidon rufigula*

We had wonderful views of many at various bridge crossings in northern Angola. The best sighting was of a large flock of five hundred shortly after leaving Kinjila. These birds were seen collecting mud and nesting under the Lucala River bridge.

**Crombecs, African warblers Macrospenidae****Moustached Grass Warbler***Melocichla mentalis*

We had wonderful views of several at Mount Moco.

**Rockrunner (Damara Rock-jumper) (NE)***Achaetops pycnopygius*

We had good views of one calling at Tundavala, another bird previously considered to be a Namibian special!



**Yellow Longbill***Macrosphenus flavicans*

We heard this elusive species at Tombingo Forest and enjoyed magnificent views of one at Damengola Forest.

**Pulitzer's Longbill***Macrosphenus pulitzeri*

We had simply outrageous views of one and heard three others in Kumbira Forest. This is a very rare and localized species.

**Long-billed (Cape) Crombec***Sylvietta rufescens*

This drier country crombec was observed during the Namibe day trip and again near Benguela.

**Red-capped Crombec***Sylvietta ruficapilla*

One was seen at Tundavala and another at Mount Moco.

**Green Crombec***Sylvietta virens*

First seen at Kumbira Forest with further sightings in Damengola Forest. A real little cutie!

**Cettia bush warblers and allies Cettiidae****Green Hylia***Hylia prasina*

Seen well and commonly heard in Kumbira Forest with further sightings in Damengola Forest. A species which is far more often heard than seen.

**Tit Hylia***Pholidornis rushiae*

John was fortunate to find one at Tombingo Forest.

**Leaf warblers and allies Phylloscopidae****Willow Warbler***Phylloscopus trochilus*

This newly arrived migrant was seen only once on Mount Moco.

**Reed warblers and allies Acrocephalidae****Greater Swamp Warbler***Acrocephalus rufescens*

We heard several calling at saw one at a wetland near Kinjila.

**Lesser Swamp Warbler***Acrocephalus gracilirostris*

We had good views of two at the Lucala River near Calandula.

**Dark-capped Yellow Warbler***Iduna natalensis*

We found a couple at Mount Moco and a further two near Lucila.

**Grassbirds and allies Locustellidae****Little Rush Warbler***Bradypterus baboecala*

We had superb views of one at a small wetland near Tundavala.

**Evergreen Forest Warbler***Bradypterus lopezi*

We heard one on Mount Moco.

**Fan-tailed Grassbird***Schoenicola brevirostris*

We had superb views of one at Mount Moco, another near Kinjila and our final sighting was of one near Lucila.

**Cisticolas and allies Cisticolidae****Lepe Cisticola***Cisticola lepe*

We had brief views of one at Mount Moco and good views of several near Kinjila and Damengola.

*NOTE: This species is often split from Red-faced Cisticola C. erythropt. Clements does not accept this split.*

**Whistling Cisticola***Cisticola lateralis*

We had good views of two in miombo woodland near Kinjila.

**Bubbling Cisticola (NE)***Cisticola bulliens*

Another of Angola's near-endemics, this cisticola was commonly encountered in moist woodlands and scrub throughout western and central Angola. We observed our first of these noisy birds at Kumbira Forest.

**Rattling Cisticola** *Cisticola chiniana*

This widespread species was seen during our day trip to Namibe and also near Benguela.

**Tinkling Cisticola** *Cisticola rufilatus*

We had good views of one at Tundavala.

**Wailing Cisticola** *Cisticola lais*

Several birds were seen on grassy hillsides at Tundavala and on Mount Moco.

*NOTE: This species is often split from Lynes's Cisticola C. distinctus which occurs in East Africa.*

**Winding Cisticola** *Cisticola marginatus*

We had good views of one near Damengola Forest.

**Chirping Cisticola** *Cisticola pipiens*

We had good views of four at a wetland near Kinjila.

**Croaking Cisticola** *Cisticola natalensis*

We had superb views of several at Mount Moco and a couple more in the Kinjila area.

**Short-winged (Siffling) Cisticola** *Cisticola brachypterus*

This tiny woodland species was observed on many days of the tour and was a constant sound around our camp at the crater lake south of Quitexe.

**Neddicky (Piping Cisticola)** *Cisticola fulvicapilla*

We had good views of four near Kinjila.

**Zitting Cisticola** *Cisticola juncidis*

Two of this widespread species were seen near the Leba scarp and a further two at Musulu Lagoon, Luanda.

**Wing-snapping Cisticola** *Cisticola ayresii*

We had good views of several at Tundavala.

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

First seen near Tundavala with further sightings near Mount Moco.

**Black-chested Prinia (NE)** *Prinia flavicans*

This dry country species was seen on the plains approaching Namibe and near Benguela.

**Banded Prinia** *Prinia bairdii*

We had excellent views of three in Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

**White-chinned Prinia** *Schistolais leucopogon*

We had great views of three near Kinjila.

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

We had great views of two during the day trip to Namibe.

**Lowland Masked Apalis** *Apalis binotata*

We had cracking views of one in Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

**Buff-throated Apalis** *Apalis rufogularis*

Small numbers were seen daily at Kumbira Forest, a vocal canopy species.

**Grey Apalis** *Apalis cinerea*

Three were seen on Mount Moco.

**Brown-headed Apalis** *Apalis alticola*

One was seen by Ulrik near Kinjila and another was seen very well by all in gallery forest near Lucila.

**Grey-backed Camaroptera** *Camaroptera brevicaudata*

First recorded at Tundavala with further sightings at Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.



NOTE: Most authorities now recognise the nominate green-backed forms of this widespread African warbler as distinct from the grey-backed forms *C. brevicaudata*. We encountered the grey-backed form in scrubby habitat throughout Angola. Clements still lumps these forms together with the recently recognized Hartert's Camaroptera, *C. harterti*.

**Hartert's Camaroptera (E)***Camaroptera harterti*

We had excellent views of several birds in Kumbira Forest, where they are one of the most vocal and commonest forest understorey species and a few other sightings in Kissama NP.

**Yellow-browed Camaroptera***Camaroptera superciliaris*

We had great views of a pair at Damengola Forest.

**Miombo Wren-Warbler***Calamonastes undosus*

We had great views of one at Mount Moco and another near Kinjila.

**Barred Wren-Warbler***Calamonastes fasciolatus*

We had brief views of one near Benguela.

**Yellow-bellied Eremomela***Eremomela icteropygialis*

We had great views of two during the day trip to Namibe.

**Salvadori's Eremomela***Eremomela salvadorii*

We had good views of one at Tundavala and a further four near Mount Moco.

**Green-capped Eremomela***Eremomela scotops*

We had good views of six at Tundavala and a further four on Mount Moco.

**Rufous-crowned Eremomela***Eremomela badiceps*

A flock of eight was seen in Tombingo Forest and a further five in Damengola Forest.

**Fulvettas, Ground Babblers Pellorneidae****Brown Illadopsis***Illadopsis fulvescens*

Seen briefly in Kumbira Forest and later we enjoyed superb views of several on the road eating "flying ants" near Kinjila, a skulking understorey species.

**Laughingthrushes Leiothrichidae****Hartlaub's Babbler***Turdoides hartlaubii*

We had good views of four at Tundavala.

**Bare-cheeked Babbler (NE)***Turdoides gymnogenys*

We had a wonderful sighting of five during our day trip to Namibe and further small flocks near Benguela.

**Sylviid Babblers Sylviidae****African Hill Babbler***Pseudoalcippe abyssinica*

We had cracking views of one on Mount Moco.

**White-eyes Zosteropidae****African Yellow White-eye***Zosterops senegalensis*

Seen almost daily in small numbers with good views of several at Mount Moco.

**Hyliotas Hyliotidae****Yellow-bellied Hyliota***Hyliota flavigaster*

Our first sighting was of one en route from Tundavala to Benguela and another was seen very well near Mount Moco and a final sighting of a couple near Kinjila.

**Southern (Mashona) Hyliota***Hyliota australis*

Several were seen daily at Kumbira Forest some individuals were pale and others showing particularly yellow underparts. None however showed white extending onto the tertials and



secondaries as shown in Yellow-bellied Hyliota, *H. flavigaster*. More detailed study of the hyliotas in Kumbira Forest may produce some interesting results.

### Treecreepers Certhiidae

**Spotted Creeper** *Salpornis spilonotus*

We had cracking views of one obliging individual on Mount Moco.

### Starlings Sturnidae

**Cape (Red-shouldered) Starling** *Lamprotornis nitens*

Commonly seen in western and southern Angola with highest daily count of 50+ during the drive from Tundavala to Benguela.

**Splendid Starling** *Lamprotornis splendidus*

Small numbers were seen in Tombingo and Damengola Forests.

**Meves's Starling** *Lamprotornis mevesii*

Two of this dry country, long-tailed starling was seen *en route* to Namibe.

**Sharp-tailed Starling** *Lamprotornis acuticaudus*

Our first sighting was of one at Tundavala and later we had awesome views of up to thirty daily in the woodlands near Kinjila.

**Violet-backed (Plum-coloured) Starling** *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*

We enjoyed good sightings near Tundavala and in Kumbira Forest.

**Chestnut-winged Starling** *Onychognathus fulgidus*

We had good views of two in Damengola Forest.

**Pale-winged Starling (NE)** *Onychognathus nabouroup*

Another dry country starling seen *en route* to Namibe where at least a dozen counted.

**Narrow-tailed Starling** *Poeoptera lugubris*

We had superb views of four in Damengola Forest.

### Oxpeckers Buphagidae

**Yellow-billed Oxpecker** *Buphagus africanus*

We had great views of a couple during the drive to Namibe.

### Thrushes Turdidae

**Fraser's Rufous Thrush** *Stizorhina fraseri*

We had great scope views of one in Kumbira Forest and a further two at Tombingo Forest.

**Groundscraper Thrush** *Psophocichla litsipsirupa*

Our first sighting was of two during the Namibe day trip. A couple more were seen near Mount Moco.

**African Thrush** *Turdus pelios*

Small numbers were seen daily in Kumbira Forest, with scattered sightings elsewhere.

**Kurrichane Thrush** *Turdus libonyana*

We had superb views of one at Tundavala.

### Chats, Old World Flycatchers Muscipidae

**Bocage's Akalat** *Sheppardia bocagei*

We were very fortunate to have the most amazing views of one of these skulkers at Tundavala. Up to six birds were seen by some of the group at this site. A beautiful bird indeed and another highlight of the trip.

**Gabela Akalat (E)** *Sheppardia gabela*



Supposedly one of the most difficult of the Gabela Scarp specials. We were fortunate to all get cracking views of one of this shy and retiring species in Kumbira Forest.

**Grey-winged Robin-Chat** *Cossypha polioptera*

We had superb views of two eating “flying ants” on the road near Kinjila.

**White-browed (Heuglin's) Robin-Chat** *Cossypha heuglini*

We had good views of five at Tundavala and several at Kinjila.

**Red-capped (Natal) Robin-Chat** *Cossypha natalensis*

One of these smart birds of forest edge and understory was seen near Kinjila.

**White-headed Robin-Chat (NE)** *Cossypha heinrichi*

At least three birds were seen near Kinjila where this species was discovered. This highly localized and incredibly beautiful bird was seen very well by all. We were extremely fortunate to have superb views of one sitting on the road eating “flying ants”. Only a handful of birders have had the privilege of seeing this bird and so we counted ourselves extremely fortunate to have been able to visit the site and see this wonderful gem! This was certainly one of the highlights of the trip!

**Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat** *Cossypha niveicapilla*

We had good but brief views of one at a river crossing near Lucila.

**Angola Cave Chat (E)** *Xenocopsychus ansorgei*

We enjoyed excellent scope views of one of these stunning songsters on the Tundavala Escarpment. Up to five birds were seen by some of the group. This is certainly one of Angola’s most striking endemics and one of the trip favorites.

**Rufous-tailed Palm Thrush (NE)** *Cichladusa ruficauda*

Our first sighting was during our day trip to Namibe and we enjoyed a further sighting near Benguela.

**Forest Scrub Robin** *Erythropygia leucosticta*

We heard this lovely songster daily in Kumbira Forest and after some effort obtained fantastic views of one. Angola is certainly one of the best places to see this elusive species.

**Miombo Scrub Robin** *Erythropygia barbata*

We had cracking views of two in woodland near Kinjila.

**Brown-backed Scrub Robin** *Erythropygia hartlaubi*

We had superb scope views of one en route from Kinjila to Quitexe and another was seen from our camp near the crater lake south of Quitexe.

**White-browed (Red-backed) Scrub Robin** *Erythropygia leucophrys*

We had good views of two during the day trip to Namibe and a further three near Benguela.

*NOTE: This widespread African complex is being reviewed for a 3-way split, the Southern African E. leucophrys group would remain as White-browed Scrub-Robin, the Central African (E. zambesiana) would become Red-backed Scrub-Robin and the Northern African (E. leucoptera) would become White-winged Scrub-Robin. Few authorities accept these splits.*

**Kalahari Scrub Robin (NE)** *Erythropygia paena*

Two of these semi-desert species was seen on the dry plains en route to Namibe.

**African Stonechat** *Saxicola torquatus*

We had good views of several at Tundavala and many more at Mount Moco.

**Capped Wheatear** *Oenanthe pileata*

We had superb views of six near Mount Moco.

**Mountain Wheatear (NE)** *Oenanthe monticola*

This species was quite common on the dry coastal plain near Namibe. The birds observed belonged to the endemic coastal Angolan race *albipileata*.

**Familiar Chat** *Oenanthe familiaris*

This rock-loving species was observed on the Tundavala Escarpment and at Mount Moco.

**Karoo Chat** *Emarginata schlegelii*



We had good views of two during the day trip to Namibe.

**Tractrac Chat (NE)** *Emarginata tractrac*

Another desert species seen on the plains close to Namibe, we counted four individuals.

**Sooty Chat** *Myrmecocichla nigra*

We had good views of one at Mount Moco and several more en route to Kinjila.

**Short-toed Rock Thrush (NE)** *Monticola brevipes*

Up to eight birds were seen in the Tundavala area and a further fifteen during the day trip to Namibe, an attractive southern species.

*NOTE: Some authorities regard the localized race from northern South Africa, called Pretoria Rock Thrush (M. pretoriae), to be distinct from the nominate Western populations. We observed the nominate form. This split is not accepted by IOC or Clements.*

**Miombo Rock Thrush** *Monticola angolensis*

Two males showed well for all, on Mount Moco.

**Angola Slaty Flycatcher (E)** *Dioptornis brunneus*

We were treated to incredible views of six of these endemic flycatchers on the Tundavala Escarpment. Up to twelve birds were seen by some of the group at Tundavala. A further one was seen on Mount Moco. This is a little known species.

**Southern Black Flycatcher** *Melaenornis pammelaina*

We had good views of several at Tundavala and a further two at Kinjila.

**Pale Flycatcher** *Bradornis pallidus*

Three were seen in the Tundavala area and several more at Mount Moco.

**Chat Flycatcher (NE)** *Bradornis infuscatus*

Three of these large desert flycatchers were observed *en route* to Namibe.

**Ashy (Blue-Grey) Flycatcher** *Muscicapa caerulescens*

We had good views of one during the day trip to Namibe and a further two in Tombingo Forest, N'Dalatando.

**Cassin's Flycatcher** *Muscicapa cassini*

We had good views of one at the rapids near Lucila.

**African Dusky Flycatcher** *Muscicapa adusta*

We had great scope views of one on Mount Moco.

**Dusky-blue Flycatcher** *Muscicapa comitata*

We had stunning views of two daily in Damengola Forest.

**Sooty Flycatcher** *Muscicapa infuscate*

We had superb views of one in Tombingo Forest, south of N'Dalatando and a further one at the rapids near Lucila.

**Grey Tit-Flycatcher** *Myioparus plumbeus*

We had good views of one at Kinjila.

### Sunbirds Nectariniidae

**Anchieta's Sunbird** *Anthreptes anchietae*

A superb pair was seen near Kinjila. This striking species was highly sought-after and another real highlight of the trip!

**Mangrove (Mouse-brown) Sunbird** *Anthreptes gabonicus*

We had superb views of two in mangroves near the Cuanza River mouth.

**Western Violet-backed Sunbird** *Anthreptes longuemarei*

We had wonderful views of several daily in the Kinjila area.

**Little Green Sunbird** *Anthreptes seimundi*

We found up to twenty in Kumbira Forest and a further pair in Damengola Forest.

**Grey-chinned Sunbird** *Anthreptes rectirostris*



One was seen at Kinjila and another in Damengola Forest.

**Collared Sunbird** *Hedydipna collaris*

We had good sightings of several in Kumbira Forest and commonly encountered at most forest sites thereafter.

**Green-headed Sunbird** *Cyanomitra verticalis*

We found several daily in Damengola Forest.

**Bannerman's Sunbird** *Cyanomitra bannermani*

We had great views of a pair near Kinjila.

**Blue-throated Brown Sunbird** *Cyanomitra cyanoaema*

We had great views of a male at Tombingo Forest and a further two in Damengola Forest.

**(Western) Olive Sunbird** *Cyanomitra olivacea*

Fairly commonly seen at Kumbira Forest.

*NOTE: The Olive Sunbird species complex is sometimes split into two full species, namely the nominate Eastern Olive-Sunbird *C. obscura* and the form in East and West Africa, Western Olive Sunbird (*C. olivacea*). There has been a review of this split and several authorities are in doubt of the validity, which is based upon the presence, or lack thereof, of pectoral tufts in the females of the various subspecies within the complex.*

**Carmelite Sunbird** *Chalcomitra fuliginosa*

Another sought-after species, we obtained good views of a male in Kumbira Forest.

**Green-throated Sunbird** *Chalcomitra rubescens*

We had wonderful views of a male in Tombingo Forest.

**Amethyst (African Black) Sunbird** *Chalcomitra amethystina*

We had good views of small numbers daily in the Tundavala area and a couple near Kinjila.

**Scarlet-chested Sunbird** *Chalcomitra senegalensis*

Several were seen during the drive to Namibe.

**Bocage's Sunbird** *Nectarinia kilimensis*

We found three birds at Mount Moco, where a pair showed particularly well. This iridescent purple species is generally not correctly depicted in field guides and is often illustrated as being all black.

**Bronzy Sunbird** *Nectarinia kilimensis*

We had superb views of one male at Tundavala and a further six on Mount Moco.

**Olive-bellied Sunbird** *Cinnyris chloropygius*

We had numerous sightings from forest edge in Kumbira Forest and forest sites thereafter.

**Ludwig's (Montane) Double-collared Sunbird (NE)** *Cinnyris ludovicensis*

Several were seen on the Tundavala Escarpment and a further six on Mount Moco. Two isolated races of this species exist, the nominate from montane forests of Western Angola and *whytei* from montane Malawi and ne Zambia.

**Purple-banded Sunbird** *Cinnyris bifasciatus*

We enjoyed wonderful sightings in Kumbira Forest and Kissama NP. At the latter site it was particularly common.

*NOTE: The form *N. e. tsavoensis* of Kenya is sometimes split off as Tsavo Sunbird.*

**Orange-tufted Sunbird** *Cinnyris bouvieri*

We had good views of a male on the edge of Damengola Forest.

**Superb Sunbird** *Cinnyris superbus*

We enjoyed several sightings at Tombingo Forest and again in Damengola Forest.

**Oustalet's (Angola White-bellied) Sunbird (NE)** *Cinnyris oustaleti*

We enjoyed superb views of three birds at Tundavala and a further one at Mount Moco. This is another very localized species.

**White-bellied (-breasted) Sunbird** *Cinnyris talatala*

This widespread southern counterpart of the previous species was commonly encountered in the dry lowlands *en route* to Namibe and near Benguela.



**Variable Sunbird***Cinnyris venustus*

We had good views of twenty in the Tundavala area and several more at Mount Moco.

**Dusky Sunbird***Cinnyris fuscus*

We had great views of two during the day trip to Namibe.

**Copper Sunbird***Cinnyris cupreus*

We had daily sightings of up to four birds near Kinjila and Damengola Forest.

**Old World Sparrows Passeridae****White-browed Sparrow-Weaver***Plocepasser mahali*

Several of these noisy, dry country weavers were seen in the arid plains east of Namibe. We also observed many of their messy grass nests near Benguela.

**House Sparrow***Passer domesticus*

This introduced species was seen in small numbers at scattered towns and villages throughout.

**Cape Sparrow***Passer melanurus*

We had good views of thirty during our drive to Namibe.

**Northern Grey-headed Sparrow***Passer griseus*

We had good views of six en route to Kissama NP.

**Southern Grey-headed Sparrow***Passer diffusus*

We found one individual near Benguela.

*NOTE: The Grey-headed Sparrow complex P. griseus has been split into five full species with the South African form being given the name P. diffusus.*

**Yellow-throated Petronia***Gymnoris superciliaris*

We had good views of several at Tundavala, a couple at Mount Moco and two at Kinjila.

**Weavers, Widowbirds Ploceidae****Red-billed Buffalo Weaver***Bubalornis niger*

A flock of twenty birds was seen in Kissama NP.

**Thick-billed Weaver***Amblyospiza albifrons*

We had good views of a three in Kumbira Forest and a further thirty flying over Damengola Forest.

**Spectacled Weaver***Ploceus ocularis*

One was seen during the day trip to Namibe, and several more near Kinjila and Lucila.

**Black-necked Weaver***Ploceus nigricollis*

This species was particularly common in Kumbira Forest where we recorded up to ten daily.

**Holub's Golden Weaver***Ploceus xanthops*

First recorded at Tundavala with further sightings en route to Namibe and at Mount Moco. Our highest count was of forty in southern Kissama NP.

**Southern Masked Weaver***Ploceus velatus*

At least twenty were seen during our lunch stop near Namibe.

*NOTE: Clements has recently accepted the split of northern Vitelline Masked-Weaver P. vitellinus from Southern Masked Weaver P. velatus.*

**Village (Spotted-backed) Weaver***Ploceus cucullatus*

Seen in Kumbira Forest and Kissama NP. Africa's commonest and most widespread weaver.

**Viellot's Black Weaver***Ploceus nigerrimus*

Small numbers were seen in Kumbira Forest with large numbers seen at Damengola Forest.

**Yellow-mantled Weaver***Ploceus tricolor*

We had superb views of six in Damengola Forest.

**Dark-backed (Forest) Weaver***Ploceus bicolor*

First seen in Kumbira Forest with further sightings near Kinjila and in Kissama NP.

**Brown-capped Weaver***Ploceus insignis*

One bird was seen in Kumbira Forest, a beautiful forest dwelling weaver, here at its most southerly range extension. A leader only sighting.

**Red-headed Malimbe** *Malimbus rubricollis*

We had superb views of a few in Damengola Forest.

**Crested Malimbe** *Malimbus malimbicus*

We had brief views of one in Damengola Forest.

**Red-headed Quelea** *Quelea erythrops*

Flocks totaling a hundred were seen near the rapids near Lucila.

**Red-billed Quelea** *Quelea quelea*

A flock of one hundred was seen during the drive from Mount Moco to Kumbira.

**Black-winged Red Bishop** *Euplectes hordeaceus*

At least twenty were seen at a wetland near Mount Moco.

**Southern Red Bishop** *Euplectes orix*

A flock of ten was seen near Tundavala.

**Golden-backed Bishop (NE)** *Euplectes aureus*

We had good views of flocks over one hundred daily in southern Kissama NP.

**Yellow Bishop** *Euplectes capensis*

A couple was seen at Mount Moco and several more near Damengola Forest.

**Fan-tailed Widowbird** *Euplectes axillaris*

We had great scope views of two at Tundavala.

**Yellow-mantled Widowbird** *Euplectes macroura*

A few were seen in a wetland near Damengola Forest.

**Marsh Widowbird** *Euplectes hartlaubi*

Five were seen at a wetland near Kinjila.

**White-winged Widowbird** *Euplectes albonotatus*

We had superb views of thirty near Kumbira Forest.

**Red-collared Widowbird** *Euplectes ardens*

A flock of forty was seen in rank grassland near Mount Moco.

### Waxbills, Munias & Allies Estrildidae

**White-breasted Nigrita** *Nigrita fusconotus*

We had superb views of up to three daily in Damengola Forest.

**Chestnut-breasted Nigrita** *Nigrita bicolor*

We had brief views of one in Tombingo Forest.

**Grey-headed Nigrita** *Nigrita canicapillus*

We enjoyed excellent views of several birds in Kumbira and Damengola Forests.

**Orange-winged Pytilia** *Pytilia afra*

We had good scope views of eight near Mount Moco.

**Green-winged Pytilia (Melba Finch)** *Pytilia melba*

We had good views of three during the drive to Benguela.

**Green Twinspot** *Mandingoa nitidula*

This species was heard in the gallery forest near Kinjila. Leader only.

**Red-faced Crimsonwing** *Cryptospiza reichenovii*

Some of us obtained superb views of a pair of these stunning seedeaters in Kumbira Forest. This is usually a very difficult bird to observe.

**Black-bellied Seedcracker** *Pyrenestes ostrinus*

We had magnificent views of a female in Damengola Forest.

**Red-headed Bluebill** *Spermophaga ruficapilla*



One male of these stunning birds was seen briefly in Kumbira Forest and a pair was seen in Damengola Forest.

**Brown Twinspot** *Clytospiza monteiri*

We had good but brief views of one near Damengola Forest, south of Quitexe.

**Dusky Twinspot** *Euschistospiza cinereovinacea*

Up to six of these beauties were seen at Mount Moco and a further eight near the rapids near Lucila. This must be one of the best countries to observe this shy and highly localized species.

**Red-billed Firefinch** *Lagonosticta senegala*

We had good views of a pair during the Namibe day trip.

**Landana (Pale-billed) Firefinch (E)** *Lagonosticta landanae*

Two birds were seen near Tundavala, a further two at Kumbira Forest and several near Damengola Forest. An uncommon Angolan endemic.

**Jameson's Firefinch** *Lagonosticta rhodopareia*

Several were seen at Tundavala and one in the Kinjila area.

**Blue Waxbill (Blue-breasted Cordonbleu)** *Uraeginthus angolensis*

First seen during the drive to Namibe with further sightings in Kissama NP.

**Violet-eared Waxbill** *Uraeginthus granatinus*

Several birds were seen at Tundavala with further sightings near Benguela. A stunning seedeater!

**Angola (Yellow-bellied) Waxbill (E)** *Coccygia bocagei*

At least twenty of these lovely waxbills were seen at Tundavala and several at Mount Moco.

*NOTE: The isolated Angolan race is very distinctive and has recently been split from Yellow-bellied Waxbill, C. quartinia. Clements does not yet accept this split.*

**Grey (Black-tailed) Waxbill** *Estrilda perreini*

We had superb views of five near Lucila.

**Cinderella Waxbill (NE)** *Estrilda thomensis*

We had brief views of one during the day trip to Namibe.

**Fawn-breasted Waxbill** *Estrilda paludicola*

We had superb views of six at Mount Moco and up to twenty five daily near Damengola Forest.

**Orange-cheeked Waxbill** *Estrilda melpoda*

Up to ten were seen feeding on grass seeds at Kumbira Forest and smaller numbers near Damengola

**Common Waxbill** *Estrilda astrild*

A flock of twelve was seen during the drive to Namibe with further sightings in Kumbira Forest.

**Orange-breasted (Zebra) Waxbill** *Amandava subflava*

Our first sighting was of ten at Mount Moco and a further six near Kinjila.

**Bronze Mannikin (Munia)** *Lonchura cucullata*

We enjoyed scattered sightings throughout.

**Black-and-white (Bicolored) Mannikin** *Lonchura bicolor*

Small groups were recorded in Kumbira Forest with peak numbers of twenty at Damengola Forest.

*NOTE: Clements does not accept the two-way split of the southern and eastern Red-backed Mannikin (L. nigriceps) and the northern and western nominate group.*

### Indigobirds, Whydahs Viduidae

**Pin-tailed Whydah** *Vidua macroura*

We had good views of three near Kinjila.

### Wagtails, Pipits Motacillidae

**Cape Wagtail** *Motacilla capensis*

We had good views of one at Tundavala.

**African Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla aguimp*



We had good views of three near Conda and several more at the Lucala River.

**Fülleborn's Longclaw** *Macronyx fuellebornii*

A pair was seen in the grassland near the Leba Escarpment, we obtained superb scope views of this sought-after species. Several more were also seen near the Lucala River.

**African (Grassveld) Pipit** *Anthus cinnamomeus*

We found six during the day trip to Namibe.

*NOTE: African pipit taxonomy is in rather a disarray and much further research is required in the phylogeny of this grouping. Several forms which are considered subspecies are likely to become full species in their own right and several new forms are surely still to be described. The identification of two new species of pipits from an urban hockey field in Kimberley, South Africa, provides an excellent illustration regarding how little is known about African pipits and how little attention has been paid to them.*

**Buffy Pipit** *Anthus vaalensis*

We had good views of up to six birds at Tundavala.

**Plain-backed Pipit** *Anthus leucophrys*

Four were seen near Mount Moco.

**Long-legged Pipit** *Anthus pallidiventris*

We had good views of one near Luanda.

**Striped Pipit** *Anthus lineiventris*

We had excellent views of one at Tundavala and another on Mount Moco.

### Finches Fringillidae

**Yellow-crowned Canary** *Serinus flavivertex*

Up to six were seen at Mount Moco.

*NOTE: The Cape Canary species complex has been split into two, the nominate southern group would remain as Cape Canary S. canicollis and the form which occurs in East Africa and Angola has become Yellow-crowned Canary (S. flavivertex.) Clements does recognise this split.*

**Black-faced Canary (NE)** *Crithagra capistrata*

This localized canary was seen first at Kumbira Forest with a further sighting of a pair at Mount Moco and another pair near Tombingo Forest.

**Black-throated Canary** *Crithagra atrogularis*

Two were seen near Benguela.

*NOTE: This species complex is sometimes split with the Angolan form remaining in the Black-throated Canary group as opposed to Reichenow's or Kenya Yellow-rumped Canary (S. reichenowi).*

**Yellow-fronted (Yellow-eyed) Canary** *Crithagra mozambica*

We had good views of two at Tundavala and several more near Kumbira Forest.

**Brimstone (Bully) Canary** *Crithagra sulphurata*

Several birds were seen at Tundavala and a further four at Mount Moco.

**White-throated Canary** *Crithagra albogularis*

We had good views of three during the day trip to Namibe.

**Thick-billed Seedeater** *Crithagra burtoni*

We had good but brief views of one on Mount Moco.

### Buntings & Allies Emberizidae

**Cinnamon-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza tahapisi*

Up to fifty were seen at Tundavala.

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

We had scattered sightings throughout with good views of six at Mount Moco.

**Cabanis's Bunting** *Emberiza cabanisi*

One was seen in the miombo woodland near Mount Moco.



## MAMMALS (33 species)

<b>Yellow Baboon</b>	<i>Papio cynocephalus</i>
We had great views of two in the montane forest on Mount Moco.	
<b>Chacma Baboon</b>	<i>Papio ursinus</i>
We had great views of ten near Benguela.	
<b>Vervet Monkey</b>	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i>
One of these inquisitive monkeys was seen en route from Benguela to Mount Moco.	
<b>Samango (Blue/Gentle) Monkey</b>	<i>Cercopithecus mitis</i>
At least six of these smart monkeys were seen in Kumbira Forest and several more in the mangroves at the Cuanza River.	
<b>Scrub Hare</b>	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>
We had good views of one at Mount Moco.	
<b>Damara Ground Squirrel</b>	<i>Geosciurus princeps</i>
We had good views of two during the Namibe day trip.	
<b>Congo Rope Squirrel</b>	<i>Funisciurus congicus</i>
We had good views of one near Damengola Forest.	
<b>Gambian Sun Squirrel</b>	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>
We had good views of two in Tombingo Forest.	
<b>Smith's Bush Squirrel</b>	<i>Xerus inauris</i>
A few were seen near Tundavala and six at Tombingo Forest.	
<b>Ichneumon (Egyptian/Large Grey) Mongoose</b>	<i>Ichneumia albicauda</i>
One was seen in Damengola Forest.	
<b>Slender Mongoose</b>	<i>Herpestes sanguinea</i>
We had good but brief views of one during the day trip to Namibe.	
<b>Smith's Rock Elephant Shrew</b>	<i>Elephantulus rupestris</i>
One was seen exceptionally well near Benguela.	
<b>Yellow-spotted Hyrax (Dassie)</b>	<i>Heterohyrax brucei</i>
One was seen at Tundavala.	
<b>Klipspringer</b>	<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>
We had brief views of two near Benguela.	

## REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS

<b>Red-headed Rock Agama</b>	<i>Agama agama</i>
We had good views of several at Tundavala and during the day trip to Namibe.	
<b>Guinea Shovel-nosed Frog</b>	<i>Hemisis guineensis</i>
We had fantastic views of two of these peculiar shaped frogs near Kinjila.	

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