



ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

Kenya & Tanzania

Birds & Big Game V

8th April to 25th April 2021 (18 days)

Trip Report



Lion pride by Nancy Christensen

Trip report compiled by Tour Leader: Andre Bernon

Top 10 birds as chosen by tour guests:

1. Malachite Kingfisher
2. Grey Crowned Crane
3. Lilac-breasted Roller
4. Schalow's Turaco
5. Greater Painted Snipe
6. Giant Kingfisher
7. Golden Pipit
8. Crowned Eagle
9. Red-and-yellow Barbet
- 10 African Paradise Flycatcher

Tour Summary

East Africa is certainly a must-visit destination for any wildlife and bird enthusiast. This trip certainly delivered in creating great memories and producing some remarkable sightings. We first explored northern Tanzania; namely Tarangire, Ngorongoro and the Serengeti. Here, we had exceptional sightings of many bird species, great mammal interactions and fantastic scenery. Kenya delivered too, as we moved from Amboseli to Mount Kenya. The drier northern part of Kenya was another highlight, bringing us many new species towards the end of an already busy tour! We had so many great sightings and also some rare ones too. We managed a lot of fun with a total of 521 species of bird and 58 mammal species to boot.

We started off this much-awaited tour, at the base of Mount Meru – a fantastic starting location! This region held many forest fauna and we were rewarded with sightings such as Green-backed Honeybird, Brown-breasted Barbet, African Wood Owl, Taveta Weaver, African Black Duck and even Black-throated Wattle-eye. This area also gave us the chance to familiarize ourselves with some species we would see many of.

We then headed west, into the drier regions of Tanzania. We left Arusha and found ourselves in the



Grey Crowned Crane and colt by Nancy Christensen

majestic and extremely scenic Tarangire National Park. The rolling hillsides, studded with huge baobab trees, were our setting for the next couple of nights. We had a fantastic introduction here with many great sightings. Our first large mammal sightings here included African Elephant and African Buffalo, whilst smaller critters included Klipspringer and Yellow-spotted Hyrax; not to forget the Olive Baboons roosting in the tall palm trees. We had many great bird sightings too. Notable sightings included Ashy Starling, Yellow-collared Lovebird, Golden-backed Weaver, Knob-billed



Ngorongoro Crater View by Andre Bernon

Duck, White-bellied Bustard, Red-and-yellow Barbet as well as our first hornbills, bee-eaters, cordon-bleus and eagles. We also enjoyed a relaxed pair of African Scops Owl roosting on the grounds of where we were staying.

We then ventured up the escarpment and toward Ngorongoro. Our lodge, near Karatu, was fantastic for sunbirds and gave us superb looks at Variable, Malachite and Bronzy Sunbirds! From here, we found our way up, and eventually into the famous Ngorongoro Crater Rim and floor. This is the world's largest intact caldera and a wet morning saw us carefully skirting around a few stuck trucks! *Welcome to Africa!* The room, with its scenic moist forests, gave us some superb birds such as Schalow's Turaco, Abyssinian Crimsonwing, Golden-winged, Malachite and Bronzy Sunbirds, Brown Parisoma, Purple Grenadier,



Masai Warriors by Rainer Summers

Hildebrandt's Francolin and many Augur Buzzards. We eventually got to the crater floor and were greeted by herds upon herds of mammals. We had super sightings of African Elephant, large herds of African Buffalo crossing in front of our vehicle, large numbers of Plain's Zebra, Common

Wildebeest, Common Eland, Grant's and Thomson's Gazelles and even Lion and African Golden Wolf. Birds were a major highlight here too, especially around Lake Magadi. Here, we had close-up encounters with Saddle-billed and Yellow-billed Storks, Red-billed and Hottentot Teals, Greater and Lesser Flamingos alongside hundreds of waders and other shorebirds. Here we also saw the gaudy Grey Crowned Crane, Rosy-throated Longclaw, Hildebrandt's, Rufous-tailed and Superb Starlings and the world's heaviest flying bird – Kori Bustard.



Leopard by Nancy Christensen

We finally made our way to the vast Serengeti! En route, we visited the world-famous Oldupai Gorge where the Leakey family made some important archaeological findings. Nearby, we also managed to visit a Masaai Village. We experienced their way of life and learnt a lot about this primitive and very traditional culture.

The Serengeti was to be our home for the following three nights, and what a fantastic time we had. Most notable were some of the mammalian sightings, such as a large pride of lions managing to take down an old buffalo bull. This is definitely a once in a life-time sighting and the pride even decided to seek shade under our vehicle! We also found our only Leopard here. A truly magnificent individual lying in a tree. Here, we also found our only Serval! Birds were plentiful; and this biome actually holds the most mass of birds out of any other biome in the world! We had a great time filtering through the common species



Group photo by Russ Christensen



African Elephant herd by Darwin Moore

and managed some great sightings of Karamoja Apalis, Eastern Plantain-eater, Black-headed Gonolek, Miombo Wren-Warbler, Grey-headed Silverbill, Grey-breasted Spurfowl, Mocking Cliff-Chat, Black-colored Babbler, Little and Black-necked Weavers, Steel-blue Whydah, Dark Chanting Goshawk, Secretarybird, Fischer's Lovebird, Black Coucal and all the species of vulture at the lion kill!

We spent another night in the Arusha area, before making our way to Kenya. En route, we made an important stop near the border. Here, we looked for the super rare and endangered Beesley's Lark. We managed to find 5 individuals, a lucky find indeed!

Our first destination in Kenya was the world-renowned Amboseli National Park. The large wetland and surrounding planes were explored well, with Kilimanjaro as a backdrop! Once again, many mammals



Hartlaub's Turaco by Andre Bernon

were seen here, including our first Cheetah and the odd-looking Gerenuk! Wetland birds were plentiful and we had close-up looks at all. Notable was the rare Red-throated Pipit, superb-looking Greater Painted Snipe, Great White Pelican, Pied Avocet, Long-toed Lapwing alongside many other waders, terns and lapwings. The surrounding savannah proved good for Tawny Eagle, Lesser and Greater Kestrels, Amur Falcon, Buff-crested and Black-bellied Bustards and both Chestnut-bellied and Black-faced Sandgrouses.

We painstakingly managed to wangle our way through the heavily populated Nairobi. A reward for our effort was a

group of Hinde's Babbler! A rather range restricted species. We eventually reached our quaint lodge on Mount Kenya! The surrounding forests were explored for the next couple of days and we were rewarded with superb looks at Olive Ibis – perched! Normal views are of flying birds, but this shy forest ibis decided to perch in some trees, on both our mornings here! We scoured through the forest on foot, searching for anything that moved. We had great looks at Abbott's Starling, Orange Ground Thrush, White-tailed Crested Flycatcher, Hartlaub's Turaco, Brown-capped Weaver, Tullberg's Woodpecker, White-headed Woodhoopoe, Tacazze Sunbird, Grey-headed Nigrita, Mountain and Cape Wagtail as well as a fantastic perched Crowned Eagle!



Greater Painted Snipe by Pat McAnany

We had to leave this great forest, unfortunately, but more was in store for us on this great tour. We next found ourselves in the dry northern part of Kenya. We stayed in a superb lodge in Shaba for three nights and explored the Shaba, Buffalo Springs and Samburu areas from here. The first afternoon here already gave us a coalition of Cheetah! Afterwards, our first morning was spent searching for the extremely localized William's Lark. We struck gold by finding a pair, feeding amongst some rocks in lava planes. Other species were numerous including gems such as Eastern Yellow-billed Hornbill, Golden-breasted and Magpie Starlings, Northern Brownbul, Black-bellied, Hunter's and Shining Sunbirds, Somali Courser, Three-streaked Tchagra, Common Rock Thrush, Acacia Tit, Grant's Wood-hoopoe, Somali and White-throated Bee-eaters, Lichtenstein's Sandgrouse and of course, many Somali Ostrich and the gaudy Vulturine Guinea fowl. Mammals were a superb feature here too. We had super looks at the Reticulated

sub-species of Giraffe, Beisa Oryx, Greater Kudu, Desert Warthog and the stunning Grevy's Zebra!



Sharpe's Longclaw by Adam Riley

We made our way back to Nairobi, visiting Lake Nakuru for a single night. En route, we had a fantastic roosting Cape Eagle-Owl, Boran Cisticola, Holub's Golden Weaver and African Black Swift. A small forest en route also gave us more White-starred Robin, White-bellied Tit, Hartlaub's Turaco and our only Narina Trogon. We reached Nakuru and after checking in to our superb lodge – explored the shorelines of this

now flooded lake. Waterbirds were plentiful, including Black-tailed Godwit, Whiskered, White-winged and Gull-billed Terns, Temminck's Stint, African Darter and more cranes, storks and pelicans. We also great looks at our only White Rhinoceros of the trip, and a majestic sighting of a pair of big male Lions! All before a huge deluge of rain happened upon us.

The tour had unfortunately reached its final day. A few more new sightings awaited though, and came in the form of Jameson's Firefinch, White-crested Helmetshrike, Jackson's Widowbird and the range-restricted Sharpe's Longclaw. We reached Nairobi and had to say our goodbyes to one another. We reminisced about all the fun we had and were lucky to have created superb memories in these tough times for travel.

Kenya & Tanzania - Birds & Big Game III 2021

Annotated List of species recorded

Note: Number in brackets () indicate number of days on the tour the species was recorded.

Birds (521 in total: 515 seen, 6 heard)

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows Gill, F and D Donsker (Eds). 2017. IOC World Bird List (v 10.1).

Status codes: E = Endemic, NE = Near-endemic, I = Introduced

IUCN codes: CR = Critically endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, EW = Extinct in the Wild, NT = Near Threatened, DD = Data Deficient

Ostrich Struthionidae

Common Ostrich

Observed in Tanzania and Kenya

Struthio camelus

Somali Ostrich (VU)

Seen well in Shaba NR, some large groups

Struthio molybdophanes

Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl Anatidae

Fulvous Whistling Duck

1 bird observed in Amboseli NP and Lake Nakuru NP

Dendrocygna bicolor

White-faced Whistling Duck

Seen throughout the trip in Tanzania and Kenya

Dendrocygna viduata

Knob-billed Duck

Seen in both Tanzania and Kenya

Sarkidiornis melanotos

Egyptian Goose

Extremely common throughout the trip

Alopochen aegyptiaca

Hottentot Teal

Common throughout and now known as Blue-billed Teal

Spatula hottentota

African Black Duck

Seen well at Ngare Sero

Anas sparsa

Yellow-billed Duck

Lake Nakuru NP

Anas undulata

Southern Pochard

2 males and a single female were observed in Lake Nakuru NP

Netta erythrophthalma

Red-billed Teal

Common in both Tanzania and Kenya

Anas erythrorhyncha

Guineafowl Numididae**Helmeted Guineafowl**

Extremely common resident

*Numida meleagris***Vulturine Guineafowl**

Large flocks were observed in Buffalo Springs

*Acryllium vulturinum***Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies Phasianidae****Coqui Francolin**

Seen well in Tarangire NP and Serengeti NP

*Peliperdix coqui***Crested Francolin**

Good views of small family groups in both countries

*Dendroperdix sephaena***Scaly Francolin**Heard only, on the 20th in Castle Forest*Pternistis squamatus***Jackson's Francolin**

We managed to find a pair! New to our Rockjumper tours for this circuit!

*Pternistis jacksoni***Hildebrandt's Francolin**

Common in Tarangire and Ngorongoro NP's

*Pternistis hildebrandti***Yellow-necked Spurfowl**

Common resident

*Pternistis leucoscepus***Grey-breasted Spurfowl –E**

Common endemic seen well only in Serengeti NP

*Pternistis rufopictus***Red-necked Spurfowl**

Common only in Tarangire NP

*Pternistis afer***Harlequin Quail**

Flushed in Tarangire NP as well as in Amboseli NP

*Coturnix delegorguei delegorguei***Grebes Podicipedidae****Little Grebe**

Common throughout

*Tachybaptus ruficollis capensis***Black-necked Grebe**

Also known as Eared Grebe. Seen only once on Lake Magadi inside Ngorongoro caldera

*Podiceps nigricollis***Flamingos Phoenicopteridae****Greater Flamingo**

Large flocks seen in all large waterbodies

*Phoenicopterus roseus***Lesser Flamingo**

Seen side by side with Greater, proved for fantastic comparison

*Phoeniconaias minor***Storks Ciconiidae****Yellow-billed Stork**

Very common

*Mycteria ibis***Abdim's Stork**

Seen twice in Tanzania

*Ciconia abdimii***Woolly-necked Stork**

Seen once in flight, Serengeti NP

*Ciconia episcopus***White Stork**

Common paleoarctic migrant

*Ciconia ciconia ciconia***Saddle-billed Stork**

Seen very well in both countries

*Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis***Marabou Stork**

Seen in both Tanzania and Kenya

Leptoptilos crumenifer

Ibises and Spoonbills *Threskiornithidae*

African Sacred Ibis Common throughout	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>
Olive Ibis Seen well in Castle Forest – PERCHED!	<i>Bostrychia olivacea</i>
Hadada Ibis Common throughout	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
Glossy Ibis Common, especially in Kenya	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>
African Spoonbill Seen well and even observed feeding	<i>Platalea alba</i>

Hérons, Egrets, and Bitterns *Ardeidae*

Black-crowned Night Heron Seen once, in camp, Shaba Sarova	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax</i>
Striated Heron Seen just a few times	<i>Butorides striata atricapilla</i>
Squacco Heron Seen extremely well in Amboseli NP	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>
Western Cattle Egret Seen we, following large mammals	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Grey Heron Common	<i>Ardea cinerea cinerea</i>
Black-headed Heron Common	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>
Goliath Heron The largest heron in the world, observed well in Amboseli NP	<i>Ardea goliath</i>
Great Egret Common	<i>Ardea alba melanorhynchos</i>
Intermediate Egret Seen well a few times	<i>Ardea intermedia brachyrhyncha</i>
Little Egret Common	<i>Egretta garzetta garzetta</i>

Hamerkop *Scopidae*

Hamerkop This monotypic family was seen well throughout the tour	<i>Scopus umbretta umbretta</i>
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Pelicans *Pelecanidae*

Great White Pelican Large flocks observed in Lake Magadi, Amboseli and Lake Nakuru	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>
Pink-backed Pelican Seen once near Lake Manyara and several Lake Nakuru	<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i>

Cormorants and Shags *Phalacrocoracidae*

Reed Cormorant Also known as Long-tailed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus africanus</i>
White-breasted Cormorant Seen only in Lake Nakuru	<i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>

Anhingas *Anhingidae*

African Darter Seen only in Lake Nakuru	<i>Anhinga rufa rufa</i>
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Secretary-bird *Sagittariidae***Secretarybird (VU)**

Seen several times

*Sagittarius serpentarius*Hawks, Eagles, and Kites *Accipitridae***Black-winged Kite**

Common throughout

*Elanus caeruleus***African Harrier-Hawk**

Even observed feeding

*Polyboroides typus typus***Palm-nut Vulture**

Seen by some at Ngare Sero

*Gypohierax angolensis***Egyptian Vulture**

Seen by some in Tarangire NP

*Neophron percnopterus***Hooded Vulture (EN)**

Seen very well throughout our trip

*Necrosyrtes monachus***White-backed Vulture (NT)**

Most common vulture observed

*Gyps africanus***Rüppell's Vulture (EN)**

Seen in both countries

*Gyps rueppelli rueppelli***White-headed Vulture**

Seen only in Tanzania

*Trigonoceps occipitalis***Lappet-faced Vulture**

Seen in both Tanzania and Kenya

*Torgos tracheliotos***Black-chested Snake Eagle**

Seen only once in Ngorongoro

*Circaetus pectoralis***Brown Snake Eagle**

Common throughout our trip

*Circaetus cinereus***Bateleur (NT)**

Seen well in all large parks

*Terathopius ecaudatus***Crowned Eagle (NT)**

Seen once, perched in Castle Forest

*Stephanoaetus coronatus***Martial Eagle (NT)**

Seen well in all large parks

*Polemaetus bellicosus***Long-crested Eagle**

Seen once in Kenya and several times in Tanzania

*Lophaetus occipitalis***Lesser Spotted Eagle**

Uncommon summer migrant seen on 5 days

*Clanga pomarina***Wahlberg's Eagle**

Seen only 3 days in both countries

*Hieraaetus wahlbergi***Tawny Eagle**

Seen well, several times

*Aquila rapax***Steppe Eagle**

Seen only once, Amboseli NP

*Aquila nipalensis***Ayres's Hawk-Eagle**

Seen well, interacting with an immature, Ngare Sero

*Hieraaetus ayresii***African Hawk-Eagle**

Seen only twice; once in each country

*Aquila spilogaster***Gabar Goshawk**

Seen in both Tanzania and Kenya

*Micronisus gabar***Dark Chanting Goshawk**

Seen well, only in Serengeti

*Melierax metabates***Eastern Chanting Goshawk**

Seen well throughout

Melierax poliopterus

African Goshawk

Seen once, pre-dawn; Ngare Sero

Rufous-chested Sparrowhawk

We enjoyed a great fly-by on the crater rim

Western Marsh Harrier

Seen once each in Ngorongoro and Amboseli

Yellow-billed Kite

Common migrant

African Fish Eagle

Seen several times

Common Buzzard

Seen perched in Tarangire NP

Mountain Buzzard (NT)

Extended views of a perched bird on the Ngorongor crater rim

Augur Buzzard

Extremely common

Accipiter tachiro

Accipiter rufiventris

Circus aeruginosus

Milvus aegypticus

Haliaeetus vocifer

Buteo buteo vulpinus

Buteo oreophilus

Buteo augur

Bustards Otididae**Kori Bustard (NT)**

Common throughout

White-bellied Bustard

Seen several times

Buff-crested Bustard

Seen well, twice; Kenya only

Black-bellied Bustard

Seen well in Amboseli and Lake Nakuru

Ardeotis kori struthiunculus

Eupodotis senegalensis

Lophotis gindiana

Lissotis melanogaster melanogaster

Rails, Gallinules, and Coots Rallidae**African Crake**

Flushed along the Tarangire River

Black Crake

Seen several times

Common Moorhen

Also known as Common Gallinule

Red-knobbed Coot

Seen several times

Crex egregia

Amaurornis flavirostra

Gallinula chloropus meridionalis

Fulica cristata

Cranes Gruidae**Grey Crowned Crane (VU)**

Common with a notable sighting of a pair with tiny chicks!

Balearica regulorum gibbericeps

Thick-knees Burhinidae**Water Thick-knee**

Seen in both Tanzania and Kenya

Spotted Thick-knee

Seen roosting

Burhinus vermiculatus vermiculatus

Burhinus capensis

Stilts and Avocets Recurvirostridae**Black-winged Stilt**

Very common

Pied Avocet

Seen well throughout

Himantopus himantopus

Recurvirostra avosetta

Plovers and Lapwings Charadriidae**Long-toed Lapwing**

Common only in Amboseli NP

*Vanellus crassirostris***Blacksmith Lapwing**

Common throughout our trip

*Vanellus armatus***Spur-winged Lapwing**

Less frequent but seen well in both countries

*Vanellus spinosus***Black-winged Lapwing**

Seen on our last two days in Kenya

*Vanellus melanopterus minor***Crowned Lapwing**

Common throughout

*Vanellus coronatus coronatus***Common Ringed Plover**

Seen just a few times in Amboseli and Nakuru

*Charadrius hiaticula***Kittlitz's Plover**

Seen throughout our trip

*Charadrius pecuarius***Three-banded Plover**

Common throughout

*Charadrius tricollaris tricollaris***Chestnut-banded Plover**

Seen only once; Lake Magadi, Ngorongoro

*Charadrius pallidus***Painted-Snipes Rostratulidae****Greater Painted-snipe**

We searched hard and were eventually rewarded with superb views!

*Rostratula benghalensis***Jacanas Jacanidae****Lesser Jacana**

A few birds seen on a small wetland, near Nakuru

*Microparra capensis***African Jacana**

Seen well in both countries

*Actophilornis africanus***Sandpipers and Allies Scolopacidae****Black-tailed Godwit**

Probably busy migrating. Seen in Amboseli and in Nakuru

*Limosa limosa***Ruff**

Common throughout our trip

*Calidris pugnax***Curlew Sandpiper**

Seen Ngorongoro crater and Lake Nakuru

*Calidris ferruginea***Temminck's Stint**

Seen twice; Amboseli and Nakuru

*Calidris temminckii***Little Stint**

A common migrant

*Calidris minuta***African Snipe**

A single bird was flushed in Amboseli NP

*Gallinago nigripennis***Common Sandpiper**

Seen well in both countries

*Actitis hypoleucos***Marsh Sandpiper**

Seen in Lake Magadi and in Amboseli

*Tringa stagnatalis***Wood Sandpiper**

Seen well in both countries

*Tringa glareola***Common Greenshank**

Seen well in both countries

Tringa nebularia

Pratincoles and Coursers Glareolidae**Somali Courser**

A few groups were found in Shaba and Buffalo Springs

*Cursorius somalensis littoralis***Temminck's Courser**

A pair was found in the woodland in Amboseli NP

*Cursorius temminckii***Double-banded Courser**

Seen well multiple times

*Rhinoptilus africanus gracilis***Three-banded Courser**

Found roosting in Tarangire NP

*Rhinoptilus cinctus***Collared Pratincole**

Found in Amboseli NP

*Glareola pratincola***Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers Laridae****Grey-headed Gull**

Seen on Lake Magadi and Lake Nakuru

Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus
*poiocephalus***Gull-billed Tern**

Seen well throughout the trip

*Gelochelidon nilotica nilotica***Whiskered Tern**

Seen in Amboseli and Lake Nakuru

*Chlidonias hybrida***White-winged Tern**

Seen throughout the trip and in stunning breeding plumage

*Chlidonias leucopterus***Sandgrouse Pteroclididae****Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse**

Seen extremely well throughout the tour

*Pterocles exustus olivascens***Black-faced Sandgrouse**

Seen in both countries

*Pterocles decoratus***Lichtenstein's Sandgrouse**

Seen briefly in flight, and then perched; northern Kenya

*Pterocles lichtensteinii***Pigeons and Doves Columbidae****Rock Dove**

Always in urban areas

Columba livia var. *domestica***Speckled Pigeon**

Common throughout

*Columba guinea guinea***African Olive Pigeon**

Seen on the Ngorongoro Crater Rim forests

*Columba arquatrix***Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon**

Seen perched on the Ngorongoro Crater Rim forest

*Columba delegorguei***Dusky Turtle Dove**

Seen well on the rim

*Streptopelia lugens***Mourning Collared Dove**

Common throughout

*Streptopelia decipiens***Red-eyed Dove**

Common and everyone managed to learn its song

*Streptopelia semitorquata***Ring-necked Dove**

Common throughout

*Streptopelia capicola***Laughing Dove**

Common throughout

*Spilopelia senegalensis senegalensis***Emerald-spotted Wood Dove**

Common throughout

Turtur chalcospilos

Namaqua Dove

A few good sightings were had in both countries

African Green Pigeon

Seen in flight; Ngorongoro and Ngare Sero

Oena capensis capensis

Treron calvus

Turacos Musophagidae**Schalow's Turaco**

Seen very well on the crater rim and then also on the Grumeti River in the Serengeti

Tauraco schalowi

Hartlaub's Turaco

Excellent views of many birds on Mount Kenya

Tauraco hartlaubi

Bare-faced Go-away-bird

Common only in Tanzania

Corythaixoides personatus

White-bellied Go-away-bird

Common throughout

Corythaixoides leucogaster

Eastern Plantain-Eater

Many groups were seen along the Grumeti River in the Serengeti

Crinifer zonorus

Cuckoos Cuculidae**White-browed Coucal**

Common throughout

Centropus monachus

Black Coucal

We saw a pair in Serengeti; we even witnessed them fornicating!

Centropus grillii

Green Malkoha

Seen feeding, in Ngare Sero Lodge grounds!

Ceuthmochares australis

Great Spotted Cuckoo

Seen twice; once in Tarangire and another in Buffalo Springs

Clamator glandarius

Jacobin Cuckoo

Seen throughout

Clamator jacobinus pica

Diederik Cuckoo

Seen throughout

Chrysococcyx caprius

Klaas's Cuckoo

Seen briefly, Ngare Sero

Chrysococcyx klaas

Red-chested Cuckoo

Seen very well in Tarangire NP

Cuculus solitarius

African Cuckoo

Seen once in Tarangire NP

Cuculus gularis

Common Cuckoo

Seen once in Ngorongoro

Cuculus canorus

Owls Strigidae**African Scops Owl**

A pair was seen well around our lodge in Tarangire

Otus senegalensis

Cape Eagle-Owl

Seen on the roost at the base of Mt Kenya

Bubo capensis mackinderi

Spotted Eagle-Owl

(1) Amboseli NP 18.4.

Bubo africanus africanus

Seen pre-breakfast in our lodge grounds in the Serengeti and also found a roosting pair near the Amboseli gate

Verreaux's Eagle-Owl

Heard only, Ngare Sero Lodge

Bubo lacteus

African Wood Owl

Seen well on both occasions that we were at Ngare Sero Lodge

Strix woodfordii

Pearl-spotted Owlet

Seen multiple times

*Glaucidium perlatum licua***Swifts Apodidae****Scarce Swift**

Seen well over Mount Kenya NP

*Schoutedenapus myoptilus myoptilus***Mottled Spinetail**

Only in the Tarangire region and only in the vicinity of Baobab Trees

*Telacanthura ussheri***African Palm Swift**

Very common

*Cypsiurus parvus***Common Swift**

Seen on passage in Ngorongoro

*Apus apus***Nyanza Swift**

Seen in the distance from Ngare Sero Lodge

*Apus niansae***African Black Swift**

Seen in the Serengeti and then again at the Cape Eagle-Owl roost and Nakuru

*Apus barbatus roehli***Little Swift**

Very common

*Apus affinis***Horus Swift**

Seen in the Shaba region

*Apus horus***White-rumped Swift**

Common in Tanzania

*Apus caffer***Mousebirds Coliidae****Speckled Mousebird**

Common throughout

*Colius striatus***White-headed Mousebird**

Seen well in Buffalo Springs and Samburu

*Colius leucocephalus***Blue-naped Mousebird**

Eventually we had great looks

*Urocolius macrourus***Trogons Trogonidae****Narina Trogon**

Seen well at the base of Mt Kenya

*Apaloderma narina***Rollers Coraciidae****Purple Roller**

Seen whilst descending into the Serengeti and also Samburu

*Coracias naevius naevius***Lilac-breasted Roller**

Refreshingly common

*Coracias caudatus***Broad-billed Roller**

Seen once near the Grumeti River in the Serengeti

*Eurystomus glaucurus***Kingfishers Alcedinidae****Grey-headed Kingfisher**

Seen well in Shaba Saraova Lodge grounds

*Halcyon leucocephala***Striped Kingfisher**

Common throughout

*Halcyon chelicuti chelicuti***Woodland Kingfisher**

Regreshingly common throughout

*Halcyon senegalensis***Malachite Kingfisher**

Seen exceptionally well in Amboseli NP

Corythornis cristatus

Giant Kingfisher

We had great encounters at Ngare Sero and Castl Forest

Megaceryle maxima

Pied Kingfisher

Common resident observed only in Kenya

Ceryle rudis rudis

Bee-eaters Meropidae**Little Bee-eater**

Common throughout

Merops pusillus

Swallow-tailed Bee-eater

We managed a great record of a singleton in Tarangire; a new bird for us on this circuit!

Merops hirundineus

Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater

Seen around Mt Kenya, always at high elevation

Merops oreobates

White-fronted Bee-eater

Lake Nakuru NP

Merops bullockoides

Somali Bee-eater

Shaba

Merops revoilii

White-throated Bee-eater

Seen well only in northern Kenya

Merops albicollis

Blue-cheeked Bee-eater

Seen in Tarangire and Amboseli

Merops persicus

European Bee-eater

Seen in passage, both countries

Merops apiaster

Hoopoes Upupidae**African Hoopoe**

Common throughout our tour

Upupa africana

Woodhoopoes and Scimitar-bills Phoeniculidae**White-headed Wood Hoopoe**

We worked hard to get views of a small group on our final morning on Mt Kenya

Phoeniculus bollei jacksoni

Green Wood-Hoopoe

Seen many times as well as displaying

Phoeniculus purpureus

Grant's Wood Hoopoe

We managed to find a pair in Shaba

Phoeniculus granti

Abyssinian Scimitarbill

Seen numerous times in both countries

Rhinopomastus minor

Ground Hornbills Bucorvidae**Southern Ground Hornbill**

Seen well multiple times in Tanzania

Bucorvis leadbeateri

Hornbills Bucerotidae**Tanzanian Red-billed Hornbill -E**

Common, yet only seen in the Serengeti

Tockus ruahae

Northern Red-billed Hornbill

Common throughout

Tockus erythrorhynchus

Von der Decken's Hornbill

Common throughout

Tockus deckeni

Eastern Yellow-billed Hornbill

Seen well in northern Kenya

Tockus flavirostris

Crowned Hornbill

Seen once on Mt Kenya

Lophoceros alboterminatus

African Grey Hornbill

Common throughout

Trumpeter Hornbill

A pair was seen well in Ngare Sero Lodge grounds

Silvery-cheeked Hornbill

Seen well around Arusha and Mt Kenya

*Lophoceros nasutus**Bycanistes bucinator**Bycanistes brevis***African Barbets *Lybiidae*****White-eared Barbet**

Common around Ngare Sero

Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird

Seen well on Mt Kenya

Red-fronted Tinkerbird

Seen well in the Serengeti

Red-fronted Barbet

Seen well in the Serengeti

Black-throated Barbet

Seen once in each country

White-headed Barbet

Seen once; Ngorongoro caldera

Brown-breasted Barbet

Seen in the forest near Ngare Sero

Red-and-yellow Barbet

Seen extremely well in both countries

D'Arnaud's BarbetNominate as well as the *usambiro* subspecies in the Serengeti.*Stactolaema leucotis**Pogoniulus bilineatus**Pogoniulus pusillus**Tricholaema diademata**Tricholaema melanocephala**Lybius leucocephalus**Lybius melanopterus**Trachyphonus erythrocephalus**Trachyphonus darnaudii***Honeyguides *Indicatoridae*****Green-backed Honeybird**

Seen well, yet only once, near Ngare Sero

Pallid Honeyguide

Seen well, yet only once, near Ngare Sero

Lesser Honeyguide

Seen well in the Shaba region as well as Lake Nakuru

Greater Honeyguide

Seen twice in both Tanzania and Kenya

*Prodotiscus zambesiae**Indicator meliphilus**Indicator minor**Indicator indicator***Woodpeckers *Picidae*****Nubian Woodpecker**

Good views were had multiple times

Tullberg's Woodpecker

Seen twice around Mt Kenya

Bearded Woodpecker

Seen multiple times in Tanzania

Cardinal Woodpecker

Common throughout

African Grey Woodpecker

Seen well in Tarangire

Eastern Grey Woodpecker

Seen well on the Ngorongoro Crater rim

Brown-backed Woodpecker

This shy and uncommon bird was observed extremely well and rather close by on the Ngorongoro Crater rim

*Campethera nubica**Campethera tullbergi**Chloropicus namaquus**Dendropicos fuscescens**Dendropicos goertae**Dendropicos spodocephalus*
*rhodeogaster**Dendropicos obsoletus*

Falcons and Caracaras *Falconidae***Pygmy Falcon***Polihierax semitorquatus*
castanonotus

Seen well throughout

Lesser Kestrel*Falco naumanni*

Seen well, multiple times in both countries

Greater Kestrel*Falco rupicoloides*

Seen in the Serengeti and in Amboseli

Grey Kestrel*Falco ardosiaceus*

Seen well in Tanzania

Red-necked Falcon (NT)*Falco chicquera ruficollis*

Seen perched in a palm tree in Tarangire

Amur Falcon*Falco amurensis*

Seen only a few times, presumably on passage

Eurasian Hobby*Falco subbuteo subbuteo*

Seen multiple times

African Hobby*Falco cuvierii*

Seen hunting over Ngare Sero

African & New World Parrots *Psittacidae***Red-fronted Parrot***Poicephalus gulielmi massaicus*

Seen on Mt Kenya

Meyer's Parrot*Poicephalus meyeri*

Seen multiple times in Tanzania

Red-bellied Parrot*Poicephalus rufiventris rufiventris*

Seen well in both countries

Old World Parrots *Psittaculidae***Fischer's Lovebird - NE***Agapornis fischeri*

Seen very well in the Serengeti

Yellow-collared Lovebird - E*Agapornis personatus*

Seen well in Tarangire

Wattle-eyes and Batises *Platysteiridae***Chinspot Batis***Batis molitor*

Common throughout

Pygmy Batis*Batis perkeo*

Seen well in northern Kenya

Black-throated Wattle-eye*Platysteira peltata*

Good views were had at the base of Mt Meru

Bushshrikes and Allies *Malaconotidae***Grey-headed Bushshrike***Malaconotus blanchoti*

Seen well throughout

Black-fronted Bushshrike*Chlorophoneus nigrifrons*

Seen well on Mt Kenya

Orange-breasted Bushshrike*Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus similis*

Heard once in the Serengeti

Rosy-patched Bushshrike*Telophorus cruentus*

Common in northern Kenya and also seen once in Tanzania on the lark plains

Brown-crowned Tchagra*Tchagra australis*

Seen multiple times in Tanzania

Three-streaked Tchagra*Tchagra jamesi*

A difficult bird to connect with; seen in Samburu

Black-crowned Tchagra

Common in Tanzania

*Tchagra senegalus***Black-backed Puffback**

Common in Tanzania and seen once in Lake Nakuru too

*Dryoscopus cubla***Slate-colored Boubou**

Common throughout

*Laniarius funebris***Tropical Boubou**

Common throughout

*Laniarius major***Black-headed Gonolek**

Seen on the Grumeti River in the Serengeti

*Laniarius erythrogaster***Brubru**

Common throughout

*Nilaus afer***Cuckoo-shrikes Campephagidae****Grey Cuckooshrike**

Seen several times on Mt Kenya

*Cebilepyris caesius***Black Cuckooshrike**

Seen in Tarangire and Ngorongoro

*Campephaga flava***Purple-throated Cuckooshrike**

Seen well on Mt Kenya

*Campephaga quiscalina***Vangas Vangidae****White-crested Helmetshrike**

A flock was observed in Lake Nakuru

*Prionops plumatus***Shrikes Laniidae****Magpie Shrike**

Common in Tanzania

*Urolestes melanoleucus***Northern White-crowned Shrike**

Common throughout. Also known as White-rumped Shrike

*Eurocephalus ruppelli***Red-backed Shrike**

Common throughout

*Lanius collurio***Red-tailed Shrike**

A great record of a single bird probably in passage; Ngorongoro

*Lanius phoenicuroides***Lesser Grey Shrike**

Common throughout

*Lanius minor***Grey-backed Fiscal**

Seen well in the Serengeti and Lake Nakuru

*Lanius excubitoroides***Long-tailed Fiscal**

Common in Tanzania and also seen in Amboseli

*Lanius cabanisi***Taita Fiscal**

Common throughout

*Lanius dorsalis***Northern Fiscal**

Common throughout

*Lanius humeralis***Old World Orioles Oriolidae****Mountain Oriole**

Seen on Mt Kenya

*Oriolus percivali***Black-headed Oriole**

Common in Tanzania

Oriolus larvatus

Drongos *Dicruridae*

Fork-tailed Drongo
Common throughout

Dicrurus adsimilis

Monarch Flycatchers *Monarchidae*

African Paradise Flycatcher
Common throughout

Terpsiphone viridis

Crows, Jays, and Magpies *Corvidae*

Cape Crow
Common in parts of Kenya

Corvus capensis kordofanensis

Pied Crow
Common throughout

Corvus albus

Fan-tailed Raven
Seen once when we were leaving Shaba

Corvus rhipidurus rhipidurus

White-necked Raven
Seen once as we left Ngorongoro Crater rim

Corvus albicollis

Fairy Flycatchers *Stenostiridae*

White-tailed Crested Flycatcher
Mt Kenya

Elminia albonotata

Chickadees and Tits *Paridae*

White-bellied Tit
Seen well on Mt Kenya

Melaniparus albiventris

Red-throated Tit
We managed good looks in the Serengeti

Melaniparus fringillinus

Acacia Tit
A pair was observed in Samburu. Also known as Somali Tit

Melaniparus thruppi

Penduline-Tits *Remizidae*

Grey Penduline Tit
Seen well in Tarangire

Anthoscopus caroli

Larks *Alaudidae*

Beesley's Lark
We managed to find 5 individuals on the Lark Plains

Chersomanes beesleyi

Chestnut-headed Sparrow-Lark
Shaba NR on the lava plains

Eremopterix signatus

Fischer's Sparrow-Lark
Common throughout

Eremopterix leucopareia

Pink-breasted Lark
Common in Kenya

Calendulauda poecilosterna

Foxy Lark
Common throughout. Split from Fawn-coloured Lark

Calendulauda alopex intercedens

Red-winged Lark
Seen once in Buffalo Springs

Mirafra hypermetra hypermetra

Rufous-naped Lark
Common throughout

Mirafra africana

Flappet Lark
Seen in Tanzania and also observed displaying

Mirafra rufocinnamomea

William's Lark
An extremely range-restricted species; we managed to find a pair on the lava plains near Shaba

Mirafra williamsi

White-tailed Lark

Seen well on the plains of Amboseli

Short-tailed Lark

Some family groups were found on the Lark Plains near Namanga

Red-capped Lark

Seen well in Tanzania

Mirafr albicauda

Spizocorys fremantlii

Calandrella cinerea

Bulbuls *Pycnonotidae***Dodson's Bulbul**

Seen multiple times in northern Kenya

Dark-capped Bulbul

Lumped with Common Bulbul by some authorities but has a yellow vent. Common throughout.

Olive-breasted Greenbul

Common on Mt Kenya

Mountain Greenbul

Seen well on Ngorongoro Crater rim

Slender-billed Greenbul

Seen well on Mt Kenya

Yellow-whiskered Greenbul

Seen a few times on Mt Kenya

Northern Brownbul

Seen well in the gardens – Shaba Sarova

Grey-olive Greenbul

Seen well at Ngare Sero

Placid Greenbul

Seen twice; once on Mt Meru and once on Mt Kenya. Split from Icterine Greenbul

Pycnonotus dodsoni

Pycnonotus tricolor

Arizelocichla kikuyuensis

Arizelocichla nigriceps

Stelgidillas gracilirostris

Eurillas latirostris

Phyllastrephus strepitans

Phyllastrephus cerviniventris

Phyllastrephus placidus

Swallows *Hirundinidae***Black Saw-wing**

Common throughout

Grey-rumped Swallow

Seen once down on the Ngorongoro Crater

Brown-throated Martin

Seen once, in each country

Banded Martin

Seen once down on the Ngorongoro Crater

Barn Swallow

Common throughout

Wire-tailed Swallow

Common throughout

Rock Martin

Common throughout

Common House Martin

Seen well near Karatu

Lesser Striped Swallow

Common throughout

Mosque Swallow

Seen well in Tarangire

Red-rumped Swallow

Common throughout

Psaltidoprocne pristoptera

Pseudhirundo griseopyga

Riparia paludicola

Riparia cincta

Hirundo rustica rustica

Hirundo smithii smithii

Ptyonoprogne fuligula rufigula

Delichon urbicum

Cecropis abyssinica unitatis

Cecropis senegalensis

Cecropis daurica

Crombecs, African warblers *Macrospenidae*

Northern Crombec	<i>Sylvietta brachyura</i>
Common in Kenya and seen once in Tanzania near Namanga	
Red-faced Crombec	<i>Sylvietta whytii</i>
Common in Tanzania and seen once in Amboseli NP	

Leaf-Warblers *Phylloscopidae*

Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>
Common throughout	
Brown Woodland Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus umbrovirens</i>
Seen well on Mt Kenya	

Reed-Warblers and Allies *Acrocephalidae*

Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>
Numerous in Amboseli NP	
Mountain Yellow Warbler	<i>Iduna similis</i>
Heard only on Mt Kenya	
Eastern Olivaceous Warbler	<i>Iduna pallida elaeica</i>
Seen multiple times in both countries	

Grassbirds and Allies *Locustellidae*

Little Rush Warbler	<i>Bradypterus baboecala</i>
We found some birds displaying in Amboseli NP	
Cinnamon Bracken Warbler	<i>Bradypterus cinnamomeus</i>
Seen exceptionally well on the Ngorongoro Crater Rim; alongside the Brown-backed Woodpecker	

Cisticolas and Allies *Cisticolidae*

Red-faced Cisticola	<i>Cisticola erythrops</i>
Seen once as we were descending into Ngorongoro caldera	
Singing Cisticola	<i>Cisticola cantans</i>
Seen well on the Ngorongoro Crater Rim	
Hunter's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola hunteri</i>
Seen on the Ngorongoro rim and Mt Kenya	
Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>
Common throughout	
Boran Cisticola	<i>Cisticola bodessa</i>
Seen well as we descended from Mt Kenya	
Ashy Cisticola	<i>Cisticola cinereolus</i>
Common in Amboseli and Samburu	
Lynes's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola distinctus</i>
We found a single bird on the crater rim	
Winding Cisticola	<i>Cisticola marginatus</i>
Common in all wetlands	
Croaking Cisticola	<i>Cisticola natalensis</i>
Seen well in the Serengeti	
Tiny Cisticola	<i>Cisticola nana</i>
Found outside Amboseli NP	
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>
Common in Tanzania	
Desert Cisticola	<i>Cisticola aridulus</i>
Found once in Buffalo Springs NP	
Pectoral-patch Cisticola	<i>Cisticola brunnescens</i>
Common in the Serengeti and Ngorongoro	

Tawny-flanked Prinia

Seen well in Tarangire NP

*Prinia subflava***Pale Prinia**

Seen well in Shaba and Samburu

*Prinia somalica erlangeri***Black-collared Apalis**

Heard in Mt Kenya

*Oreolais pulcher pulcher***Buff-bellied Warbler**

Seen well in Tarangire and Serengeti

*Phyllolais pulchella***Yellow-breasted Apalis**

Common throughout

*Apalis flava***Black-throated Apalis**

Seen once on Mt Kenya

*Apalis jacksoni jacksoni***Chestnut-throated Apalis**

Seen numerous times on Mt Kenya

*Apalis porphyrolaema***Karamoja Apalis**

An excellent bird to find; seen near the Grumeti River in the Serengeti

*Apalis karamojae***Grey Apalis**

Abundant on Mt Kenya

*Apalis cinerea cinerea***Brown-headed Apalis**

Seen well on the crater rim

*Apalis alticola***Red-fronted Warbler**

Seen a few times near Amboseli and then again in northern Kenya

*Urorhipis rufifrons***Grey-capped Warbler**

Seen well on the crater rim

*Eminia lepida***Grey-backed Camaroptera**

Abundant throughout

*Camaroptera brevicaudata***Grey Wren-Warbler**

Common in drier parts of Kenya

*Calamonastes simplex***Miombo Wren-Warbler**

A rare bird which we found in the Serengeti

*Calamonastes undosus***Yellow-bellied Eremomela**

Seen well near Namanga, within Tanzania

*Eremomela icteropygialis***Yellow-vented Eremomela**

Seen many times in Shaba and Samburu

*Eremomela flavicrissalis***Laughingthrushes *Leiothrichidae*****Black-lored Babbler**

Common in the Serengeti

*Turdoides sharpie***Arrow-marked Babbler**

Seen well in both countries

*Turdoides jardineii***Hinde's Babbler (VU)**

We worked hard to find a group, just outside Nairobi

*Turdoides hindei***Northern Pied Babbler**

Seen well in Tarangire

*Turdoides hypoleuca***Old World Warblers *Sylviidae*****African Hill Babbler**

Numerous on Mt Kenya

*Pseudoalcippe abyssinica***Common Whitethroat**

Seen well in Buffalo Springs and Samburu

*Sylvia communis***Brown Parisoma**

Habitat specific; Ngorongoro Crater rim

Sylvia lugens

Banded Parisoma

Seen well in the Serengeti and Amboseli

*Sylvia boehmi***Yuhinas, White-eyes, and Allies Zosteropidae****Abyssinian White-eye**

Seen twice; Oldupai and Namanga area. Sometimes referred to as Pale White-eye

*Zosterops abyssinicus***African Yellow White-eye**

Seen at the Kilimanjaro International Airport and Ngare Sero. Subsequently split into Northern Yellow White-eye

*Zosterops senegalensis***Montane White-eye**

Seen well on the crater rim and subsequently split into Mbulu White-eye

*Zosterops poliogastrus mbuluensis***Kikuyu White-eye**

Seen well on Mt Kenya

*Zosterops kikuyuensis***Starlings Sturnidae****Wattled Starling**

Common throughout

*Creatophora cinerea***Greater Blue-eared Starling**

Seen in the Nakuru region

*Lamprotornis chalybaeus***Rüppell's Starling**

Common in the Serengeti

*Lamprotornis purpuroptera purpuroptera***Golden-breasted Starling**

Observed in the drier parts of Northern Kenya

*Lamprotornis regius***Superb Starling**

SUPERSTAR!

*Lamprotornis superbus***Hildebrandt's Starling - NE**

Common in Tanzania

*Lamprotornis hildebrandti***Ashy Starling - NE**

Common in Tarangire NP

*Lamprotornis unicolor***Fischer's Starling**

Seen well in Amboseli NP

*Lamprotornis fischeri***Violet-backed Starling**

Seen in Tarangire NP

*Cinnyricinclus leucogaster***Red-winged Starling**

Common throughout

*Onychognathus morio***Waller's Starling**

Seen well in Ngorongoro and Mt Kenya

*Onychognathus walleri***Bristle-crowned Starling**

Seen exceptionally well in Shaba, only when the figs area fruiting

*Onychognathus salvadorii***Abbott's Starling**

A rare bird which we found on Mt Kenya

*Poeoptera femoralis***Magpie Starling**

Seen once in Shaba NP

*Speculipastor bicolor***Oxpeckers Buphagidae****Yellow-billed Oxpecker**

Common throughout

*Buphagus africanus africanus***Red-billed Oxpecker**

Common throughout

*Buphagus erythrorhynchus***Thrushes and Allies Turdidae****African Thrush**

Seen well in Lake Nakuru

Turdus pelios

Bare-eyed Thrush

Seen well near Amboseli NP

*Turdus tephronotus***Abyssinian Thrush**

Seen well in Ngorongoro and Mt Kenya

*Turdus abyssinicus***Orange Ground-Thrush**

Another great record on Mt Kenya. New for our Rockjumper tours!

*Geokichla gurneyi***Old World Flycatchers *Muscicapidae*****White-browed Scrub Robin**

Common throughout

*Cercotrichas leucophrys***White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher**

Common throughout

*Melaenornis fischeri***Northern Black Flycatcher**

Seen briefly in Shaba

*Melaenornis edoloides***African Grey Flycatcher**

Common throughout

*Melaenornis microrhynchus***Silverbird**

Common in the Serengeti

*Melaenornis semipartitus***Spotted Flycatcher**

Found in the Serengeti

*Muscicapa striata***Ashy Flycatcher**

Seen well around Ngare Sero

*Muscicapa caerulescens***African Dusky Flycatcher**

Common around Mt Kenya

*Muscicapa adusta***Brown-chested Alethe**

Heard on Mt Kenya

*Chamaetys poliocephala***Cape Robin-Chat**

Common on the rim

*Cossypha caffra iolaema***Rüppell's Robin-Chat**

Glimpsed a few times on Mt Meru and Mt Kenya

*Cossypha semirufa***White-browed Robin-Chat**

Seen well near Karatu and Nakuru

*Cossypha heuglini***White-starred Robin**

Seen well a few times on Mt Kenya

*Pogonocichla stellata***Spotted Palm Thrush**

Common throughout

*Cichladusa guttata***Common Rock Thrush**

Seen well in Samburu

*Monticola saxatilis***African Stonechat**

Seen well in both countries

*Saxicola torquatus***Mocking Cliff Chat**

Seen well in the Serengeti and Nakuru

*Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris subrufipennis***Anteater Chat**

Common in Ngorongoro and Nakuru

*Myrmecocichla aethiops cryptoleuca***Capped Wheatear**

Common throughout

*Oenanthe pileata livingstonii***Familiar Chat**

Seen in camp in the Serengeti

*Oenanthe familiaris***Brown-tailed Rock Chat**

Seen well in Shaba

*Oenanthe scotocerca turkana***Abyssinian Wheatear**

Seen near Lake Manyara. Also known as Schalow's Wheatear

Oenanthe lugubris

Sunbirds and Spiderhunters Nectariniidae

Eastern Violet-backed Sunbird Common in drier parts of both countries	<i>Anthreptes orientalis</i>
Collared Sunbird Common in all forests visited	<i>Hedydipna collaris</i>
Green-headed Sunbird Seen once on the slopes of Mt Kenya	<i>Cyanomitra verticalis viridisplendens</i>
Olive Sunbird Common on the slopes of Mt Meru	<i>Cyanomitra olivacea</i>
Scarlet-chested Sunbird Common throughout	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>
Hunter's Sunbird Common in dry northern Kenya	<i>Chalcomitra hunteri</i>
Tacazze Sunbird Common in the grounds of Castle Forest	<i>Nectarinia tacazze</i>
Bronzy Sunbird Common in the Ngorongoro region	<i>Nectarinia kilimensis</i>
Golden-winged Sunbird Great looks on the rim	<i>Drepanorhynchus reichenowi</i>
Northern Double-collared Sunbird Seen well on Mt Kenya	<i>Cinnyris reichenowi reichenowi</i>
Eastern Double-collared Sunbird Common around Ngorongoro	<i>Cinnyris mediocris</i>
Beautiful Sunbird Seen well all over Tanzania and Amboseli	<i>Cinnyris pulchellus</i>
Black-bellied Sunbird Seen well in dry northern Kenya	<i>Cinnyris nectarinioides</i>
Tsavo Sunbird A female was heard singing and subsequently seen in Buffalo Springs	<i>Cinnyris tsavoensis</i>
Shining Sunbird Seen well in Samburu	<i>Cinnyris habessinicus turkanae</i>
Variable Sunbird Seen well throughout	<i>Cinnyris venustus</i>

Old World Sparrows Passeridae

House Sparrow Common introduced species	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Kenya Sparrow Seen a few times throughout our tour	<i>Passer rufocinctus</i>
Parrot-billed Sparrow Common in dry northern Kenya	<i>Passer gongonensis</i>
Northern Grey-headed Sparrow Common in urban areas	<i>Passer griseus</i>
Swahili Sparrow Common in Tanzania	<i>Passer suahelicus</i>
Chestnut Sparrow Nomadic and seen throughout our tour	<i>Passer eminibey</i>
Yellow-spotted Petronia Seen in Serengeti and dry northern Kenya	<i>Gymnoris pyrgita pyrgita</i>

Weavers and Allies Ploceidae

Red-billed Buffalo Weaver Common in drier areas; seen in both countries	<i>Bubalornis niger intermedius</i>
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White-headed Buffalo Weaver

Common throughout

*Dinemellia dinemelli***White-browed Sparrow-Weaver**

Common in dry northern Kenya

*Plocepasser mahali***Donaldson Smith's Sparrow-Weaver**

Common in Shaba and Buffalo Springs

*Plocepasser donaldsoni***Rufous-tailed Weaver – E**

Endemic to Tanzania and seen very well

*Histurgops ruficauda***Grey-capped Social Weaver**

Common in the Serengeti and Amboseli

*Pseudonigrita arnaudi***Black-capped Social Weaver**

Seen well in Shaba and Samburu

*Pseudonigrita cabanisi***Speckle-fronted Weaver**

Common in drier regions of both countries

*Sporopipes frontalis emini***Thick-billed Weaver**

Also known as Grosbeak Weaver. Seen only a few times in both countries

*Amblyospiza albifrons***Baglaffeht Weaver**

Common in moist habitats

*Ploceus baglaffeht***Little Weaver**

Seen once at Naabi Gate in the Serengeti

*Ploceus luteolus***Spectacled Weaver**

Seen along the Grumeti River in the Serengeti and also Mt Kenya

*Ploceus ocularis***Black-necked Weaver**

Seen well in Tarangire and Amboseli

*Ploceus nigricollis***Holub's Golden Weaver**

We observed a pair at the Cape Eagle-Owl roost. Previously known as African Golden Weaver

*Ploceus xanthops***Golden Palm Weaver**

Seen once at Buffalo Springs; a mega bird – globally.

*Ploceus bojeri***Taveta Weaver**

Seen around Mt Meru and again in Amboseli NP

*Ploceus castaneiceps***Lesser Masked Weaver**

Common throughout

*Ploceus intermedius***Vitelline Masked Weaver**

Seen well in the Serengeti

*Ploceus vitellinus uluensis***Speke's Weaver**

Seen in both countries

*Ploceus spekei***Village Weaver**

Seen once in Buffalo Springs

*Ploceus cucullatus***Golden-backed Weaver**

Seen well in northern Tanzania

*Ploceus jacksoni***Chestnut Weaver**

Seen in drier parts of Kenya

*Ploceus rubiginosus rubiginosus***Brown-capped Weaver**

Seen well on Mt Kenya

*Ploceus insignis***Red-headed Weaver**

Seen just a few times in both countries

*Anaplectes rubriceps***Red-billed Quelea**

The most numerous bird species in the world!

*Quelea quelea***Yellow-crowned Bishop**

Seen well in both countries

*Euplectes afer***Southern Red Bishop**

Common in Tanzania

Euplectes orix

Yellow Bishop

Common in Tanzania

Fan-tailed Widowbird

Common throughout

White-winged Widowbird

Common throughout

Red-collared Widowbird

Seen well around the crater rim

Long-tailed Widowbird

Seen well as we left Mt Kenya

Jackson's Widowbird (NT)

Seen nearer to Nairobi on our final day

*Euplectes capensis crassirostris**Euplectes axillaris**Euplectes albonotatus**Euplectes ardens**Euplectes progne delamerei**Euplectes jacksoni***Waxbills and Allies Estrildidae****Grey-headed Nigrita**

A single sighting on Mt Kenya

Green-winged Pytilia

Seen a few times in both countries

Cut-throat Finch

Common in northern Kenya

Abyssinian Crimsonwing

Seen briefly as 2 birds flushed up off the road – Ngorongoro Crater Rime

Red-billed Firefinch

Amboseli NP

Jameson's Firefinch

Seen on our last day as we were leaving Nakuru

Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu

Common throughout

Blue-capped Cordon-bleu

Common throughout

Purple Grenadier

Common in Tanzania and also a sighting in Amboseli NP

Yellow-bellied Waxbill

Seen well on the rim

Crimson-rumped Waxbill

Seen well in Tanzania

Common Waxbill

Seen well in both countries

Black-faced Waxbill

Seen well in the Serengeti and Amboseli NP

African Silverbill

Some flocks were observed in Samburu

Grey-headed Silverbill

Seen well in the Serengeti

Bronze Mannikin

Seen in our lodge grounds in the Serengeti

Red-backed Mannikin

Seen well on Mt Meru and Mt Kenya

*Nigrita canicapillus**Pytilia melba**Amadina fasciata alexanderi**Cryptospiza salvadorii**Lagonosticta senegala**Lagonosticta rhodopareia**Uraeginthus bengalus**Uraeginthus cyanocephalus**Uraeginthus ianthinogaster**Coccopygia quartinia**Estrilda rhodopyga**Estrilda astrild**Estrilda erythronotos**Euodice cantans orientalis**Odontospiza caniceps**Lonchura cucullata**Lonchura nigriceps***Indigobirds Viduidae****Village Indigobird**

Seen twice; once in each country

Vidua chalybeate

Pin-tailed Whydah

Seen well in both countries

*Vidua macroura***Steel-blue Whydah**

Seen well in the Serengeti

*Vidua hypocherina***Straw-tailed Whydah**

Seen well in the Ngorongoro Conservation area bordering the Serengeti

*Vidua fischeri***Long-tailed Paradise Whydah**

Seen once in each country

*Vidua paradisaea***Wagtails and Pipits *Motacillidae*****Western Yellow Wagtail**

Seen numerous times in both Tanzania and Kenya

*Motacilla flava***Cape Wagtail**

Seen in our lodge grounds on Mt Kenya

*Motacilla capensis wellsi***Mountain Wagtail**

Seen well on both Mt Meru and Mt Kenya

*Motacilla clara***African Pied Wagtail**

Common throughout

*Motacilla aguimp vidua***Golden Pipit**

We had great views in dry northern Kenya

*Tmetothylacus tenellus***Sharpe's Longclaw (EN)**

We managed to find a pair on the outskirts of Nairobi on our final day

*Macronyx sharpei***Yellow-throated Longclaw**

We had a great view on our final day as we left Nakuru

*Macronyx croceus***Pangani Longclaw**

Fantastic sighting in Tarangire

*Macronyx aurantiigula***Rosy-throated Longclaw**

Great looks were had in Ngorongoro

*Macronyx ameliae***Red-throated Pipit**

A great record of a single bird in Amboseli; new to our Rockjumper tours on this circuit

*Anthus cervinus***African Pipit**

Common throughout

*Anthus cinnamomeus***Long-billed Pipit**

We had a single relaxed bird as we left the slopes of Mt Kenya

*Anthus similis***Plain-backed Pipit**

A great look in Ngorongoro

*Anthus leucophrys***Finches, Euphonias *Fringillidae*****Southern Citril**

Seen well throughout moist habitats

*Crithagra hyposticta***Reichenow's Seedeater**

Seen just a few times in Tanzania

*Crithagra reichenowi***White-bellied Canary**

Common throughout our tour, always in drier habitats

*Crithagra dorsostriata***Brimstone Canary**

Seen well en route to Nakuru

*Crithagra sulphurata sharpii***Thick-billed Seedeater**

We had great looks on Mt Kenya

*Crithagra burtoni***Streaky Seedeater**

Common throughout

*Crithagra striolata striolata***Yellow-crowned Canary**

We finally saw a bird on the fence near some canola fields at the base of Mt Kenya

Serinus flavivertex

Buntings, Sparrows and Allies *Emberizidae***Cinnamon-breasted Bunting***Emberiza tahapisi tahapisi*

Seen in both Tanzania and Kenya

Somali Bunting*Emberiza poliopleura*

Seen well in Shaba

Golden-breasted Bunting*Emberiza flaviventris kalaharica*

Seen in the Serengeti

Mammals (58 in total: 57 seen, 1 heard)**Status codes:** E = Endemic, NE = Near-endemic, I = Introduced**IUCN codes:** CR = Critically endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, EW = Extinct in the Wild, NT = Near Threatened, DD = Data Deficient**Elephants *Elephantidae*****African Elephant - VU***Loxodonta africana*

(5) Kenya 15.4, Kenya 16.4 and observed Kenya 18-20.4.

Hylaxes *Procaviidae***Southern Tree Hyrax – LC***Dendrohyrax arboreus*

Heard on Mt Kenya

Yellow-spotted Hyrax – LC*Heterohyrax brucei*

Seen well in Tanzania

Common Rock Hyrax - LC*Procavia capensis*

Seen in both countries

Old World monkeys *Cercopithecidae***Blue Monkey –LC***Cercopithecus mitis albogularis*

Seen well in both countries

Vervet*Chlorocebus pygerythrus*

Common throughout

Guereza*Colobus guereza*

Also known as Black-and-white Colobus. Common throughout

Olive Baboon*Papio anubis*

Very common throughout

Yellow Baboon*Papio cynocephalus*

Seen only in Amboseli NP

Galagos *Galagidae***Northern Lesser Galago***Galago senegalensis*

We had great views in the Serengeti

Thick-tailed Greater Galago*Otolemur crassicaudatus*

Seen well in our camp; Shaba NP

True Mice and Rats, Gerbils, Spiny Mice, Crested Rat *Muridae***African Grass Rat***Arvicanthis niloticus*

Common throughout

Acacia Rat*Thallomys paedulus*

Seen once in the Serengeti NP

Squirrels *Sciuridae***Ochre Bush Squirrel***Paraxerus ochraceus*

Seen many times in Tanzania

Unstriped Ground Squirrel*Xerus rutilus*

Common throughout

Cats *Felidae***Cheetah – VU***Acinonyx jubatus*

Seen in Amboseli NP and Shaba NP

Serval – LC*Leptailurus serval*

Some great sightings in the Serengeti NP

Lion – VU*Panthera leo leo*

Many fantastic sightings including a buffalo kill

Leopard – VU*Panthera pardus pardus*

We worked hard and found a beautiful blue-eyed male in the Serengeti

Mongoose *Herpestidae***Somali Dwarf Mongoose***Helogale hirtula*

Seen well in the dry northern Kenya

Common Dwarf Mongoose*Helogale parvula*

Common in Tanzania

Egyptian Mongoose*Herpestes ichneumon*

Seen twice in Amboseli NP

Slender Mongoose*Herpestes sanguineus*

Seen a few times; in both Tanzania and Kenya

Banded Mongoose*Mungos mungo*

Common in Tanzania

Hyanas, Aardwolf *Hyaenidae***Spotted Hyaena***Crocuta crocuta*

Common throughout with some incredible sightings

Wolves, Coyote, Foxes, Jackals *Canidae***Black-backed Jackal- LC***Canis mesomelas*

(2) Kenya 15.4 and Kenya 16.4.

African Golden Wolf –LC*Canis lupaster*

Seen a few times in Tanzania

Zebras, Horse, Asses *Equidae***Grevy's Zebra – NE-LE***Equus grevyi*

Common in the dry north of Kenya

Plains Zebra –NT*Equus quagga boehmi*

Common throughout

Rhinceroses *Rhinocerotidae***White Rhinoceros***Ceratotherium simum simum*

A large bull was found in Lake Nakuru

Black Rhinoceros*Diceros bicornis*

We were lucky to find some individuals in the crater floor

Pigs *Suidae***Desert Warthog***Phacochoerus aethiopicus*

Common in the dry northern Kenya

Common Warthog
Common throughout

Phacochoerus africanus massaicus

Hippopotamuses Hippopotamidae

Hippopotamus *Hippopotamus amphibius*
Seen in both countries with a great sighting of a large bull in Amboseli NP

Cattle, Antelopes, Sheep, Goats Bovidae

Impala *Aepyceros melampus melampus*
Common throughout

Hartebeest *Alcelaphus buselaphus*
Common in Tanzania

Common Wildebeest *Connochaetes taurinus*
Common throughout with large herd in the Serengeti

Topi *Damaliscus lunatus*
Seen well in the Serengeti

Thomson's Gazelle –NE *Eudorcas thomsonii*
Common throughout

Waterbuck *Kobus ellipsiprymnus*
Both subspecies were seen throughout

Gerenuk –NT *Litocranius walleri*
Seen well in Kenya

Guenther's Dik-dik *Madoqua guentheri*
Several were seen in the dry northern Kenya

Grant's Gazelle *Nanger granti*
Common throughout

Klipspringer *Oreotragus oreotragus*
A pair was found in Tarangire

Beisa Oryx –NE –EN *Oryx beisa beisa*
Seen well in northern Kenya

Bohor Reedbuck *Redunca redunca*
Seen only once in Tarangire NP

African Buffalo – NT *Syncerus caffer caffer*
Common in both Tanzania and Kenya

Greater Kudu *Tragelaphus stripsiceros*
An uncommon sighting; Shaba NP

Common Eland *Tragelaphus oryx*
Seen well throughout

Giraffe, Okapi Giraffidae

Giraffe *Giraffa camelopardalis reticulata*

Dry northern Kenya *rothschildi*:

Lake Nakuru NP *tippelskirchi*:

Common in Tanzania and Amboseli NP

Sac-winged or Sheath-tailed Bats Emballonuridae

Mauritian Tomb Bat *Taphozous mauritanus*
Seen roosting at Oldupai

False Vampire Bats *Megadermatidae*

Yellow-winged Bat

Lavia frons

Seen in Ngorongoro and the Serengeti

Old World Fruit Bats *Pteropodidae*

Peter's Dwarf Epauletted Fruit Bat

Epomophorus pusillus

Seen in Shaba roosting in the lodge roof

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