



# ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

## **Rwanda**

### **Gorillas & Albertine Rift Endemics Extension**

*18<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017 (7 days)*

## **Trip Report**



Mountain Gorilla by Heinz Ortmann

**Trip report compiled by Tour Leader, Heinz Ortmann**

## Tour Summary

*This short extension to the small, vibrant and land-locked East African country of Rwanda was a special experience. From an emotion-filled visit to the Kigali Genocide Memorial to the once-in-a-lifetime interaction with Mountain Gorillas, and finally the vast bird-rich forest of Nyungwe National Park, we were treated to an amazing time. The variety of activities and substantial time walking the trails of some beautiful forest provided the guests with an incredible experience of this prospering nation.*

Our journey into Rwanda began with a late evening flight from Nairobi to Kigali Airport, where we met our wonderful drivers and transferred to our lovely guesthouse in the capital of Kigali. We were looking forward to the week ahead of exploring this beautiful country and meeting some of its amazing people; but having come straight from an 18-day tour of Kenya and Tanzania with the guests, we were eager to get some sleep for the early start the following morning.

The first full day of the tour began with a nice breakfast at our guesthouse before we embarked on the journey for the day. The garden of the guesthouse provided some surprises, with Red-billed Firefinch, Variable Sunbird and Baglafaecht Weaver seen before leaving the guesthouse and entering the busy and bustling city roads. We had a short town tour provided by our drivers as we made the journey through the city to the main Genocide Memorial. As often happens, one does come across some birds on the city outskirts, with Western Cattle Egret, Yellow-billed Kites and a lone Yellow-billed Stork the highlights in between some fascinating information around the genocide, history of the city of Kigali and, of course, the people that call the city home.



**Kigali Genocide Memorial main entrance by Heinz Ortmann**

The first stop for the day was the Kigali Genocide Memorial. This memorial is known for being the final resting place for over 250 000 victims during the genocide of 1994 that took place against the Tutsis. Today, this memorial plays an integral part in the country's peace-building and education efforts around the genocide, and the memorial honours the memory of the more than 1 million Rwandans that were killed during that time. This visit to the memorial was an eye-opening and somewhat difficult experience, but nonetheless fascinating, as the guests made their way around the memorial with audio guides in hand that provided an impressive history and set of facts about the events that took place. As well as placing a significant emphasis on how events such as this genocide need to be prevented from ever happening again. With our time at the memorial coming to an end, we continued towards our lodge for the night, located on the boundary of Volcanoes National Park in the far north of the country.



**Gorilla Guardians Village by Heinz Ortmann**

The journey to the lodge initially took us through the outskirts of Kigali before winding through the hilly and agricultural areas further north. One of the standout features of Kigali, and in general most of the areas that we visited throughout this extension, was the overall cleanliness in terms of litter and other rubbish, as well as the overwhelming friendliness of Rwanda's people. There were some birds along the way, with Hooded Vulture, African Sacred Ibis, African Harrier-Hawk, Little Swift, Common Kestrel, Red-eyed Dove and Southern Fiscal all seen well. Unfortunately, the weather would take a turn for the worse and we arrived at the lodge in the pouring rain. With the rain abating later in the afternoon, we made a short visit to a nearby village known as the Gorilla Guardians, where a local



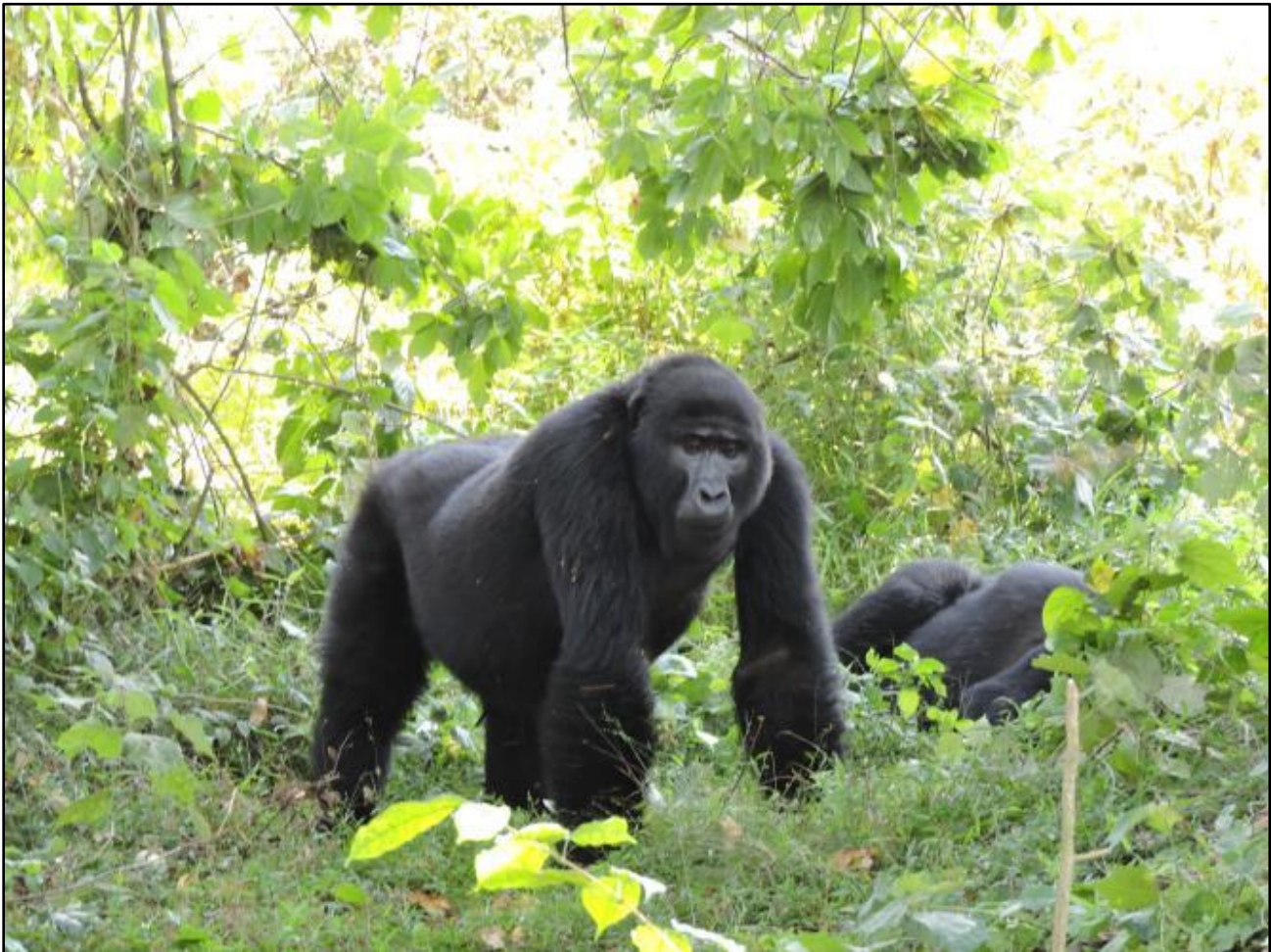
**Gorilla Guardians Village by Heinz Ortmann**

guide provided us with some insight into traditional village life. Whilst enjoying the dancing and traditional wedding ceremony, we also glimpsed for the first time some of the volcanic peaks in the area. Birds were also around, with African Stonechat, Abyssinian Thrush, African Dusky Flycatcher, Variable Sunbird and African Pied Wagtail being just some of the species seen whilst there.

With evening approaching, we said our goodbyes to the people of the village and returned to our lodge for a relaxing evening to take in the day's experiences and to

prepare for the gorilla trek the following morning. Before dinner, the guests were treated to a wonderful traditional dance by some children from a nearby school; and after a wonderful dinner, we all enjoyed a documentary on the Mountain Gorillas that the guests were hoping to see the following morning.

This particular morning was one that the guests would surely never forget, as they enjoyed an incredible hour or so with at least eight Mountain Gorillas. It is indeed one of those experiences that is too difficult to put into the right words to describe. Having had to walk quite a way to find the group, the guests returned with big smiles on their faces – having enjoyed one of the top wildlife experiences one could ever ask for. The drive to the spot where the guests began their trek produced one brief and interesting birding observation, as a much larger Black Goshawk (Sparrowhawk) was seen chasing the smaller Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk. Unfortunately, not all the guests had the good fortune of getting this sighting; but for those that did, it was a nice bonus for a morning dedicated to finding the gorillas. Back at the lodge, we enjoyed our first views of Chubb's Cisticola and even managed to find a lovely pair of Mountain Yellow Warblers before making the journey back to Kigali and our, by now, familiar guesthouse. Again, there were birds seen along the route that included Speckled Pigeon, Black-headed and Grey Herons, Great Egret, Yellow-billed Kite and Hooded Vultures, and we also had our first looks at White-necked Raven. This day in particular, I believe, would go down as the guests' top day for the entire trip due to the fantastic time spent with the family group of Mountain Gorillas that morning.



**Mountain Gorillas by Heinz Ortmann**

Early the following morning, we journeyed to the south-western corner of the country and the beautiful indigenous forest of Nyungwe National Park. Herons, egrets and Hooded Vultures were again highlights on the route. Some of the guests also had good views of Yellow Bishop before we started nearing the seemingly endless swathe of forest near Nyungwe. The main road goes through parts of this forest before we arrived at our lodge. It was during this stretch that we had our first views of the

attractive L’Hoest’s Monkeys found feeding along the road edge, as well as glimpsing the incredibly rare Ruwenzori Duiker – *a small, highly-restricted forest antelope!* The drive overall went very well, and we arrived at our lodge in time for a wonderful lunch. Having settled in and enjoyed a bit of downtime during the warmer hours of the early afternoon, we then walked around the lodge gardens in search of any birds around. We enjoyed fantastic views of the raptors in the vicinity, including Yellow-billed Kite, Common Kestrel and a gorgeous pale morph adult Augur Buzzard. Widespread and more common species such as Dark-capped Bulbul, Speckled Mousebird, African Yellow White-eye, Tropical Boubou, Black Saw-wing and Rock Martin were all easily found in and around the gardens.

In the shrubby and denser vegetated areas below the garden, we found Chubb’s Cisticola, White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher and, for a brief moment, a small group of Fawn-breasted Waxbill – *a surprising find here!* There were many trees in flower in the garden, which in turn attracted several species of sunbird. Before a rather large shower of rain stopped our birding in its tracks, we were able to have great looks at Bronzy, Collared, Green-headed, numerous Northern Double-collared and Variable Sunbirds in the garden. Unfortunately, the rain ended our day a bit prematurely, but this did not detract from a successful travel day with a great selection of birds and a few mammals also seen.

The next two days entailed long walks along the numerous trails of the beautiful Nyungwe Forest National Park; and with the help of our excellent local guide, we were able to find a number of sought-after rift endemics and highly localised species. As with most forest birding, there were many species that we unfortunately only heard and did not manage to get any views of during the two full days of exploring the forest here. The shy and skulking nature of many of these species that we only heard made it all the more reasonable and expected that we did not see them. The flip side of this was that we managed to find an impressive number of specials; and of



**Ruwenzori Turaco by Rainer Summers**

those that were seen, a high percentage were seen by all of the guests and seen well. Mammals are often overlooked and generally quite difficult to find in dense forest; but over the course of the two days, we had many wonderful sightings of both L’Hoest’s and Vervet Monkeys, as well as a number of the small forest squirrels that included Carruthers Mountain Squirrel, the absolutely tiny Boehm’s Bush Squirrel and finally the rare Ruwenzori Sun Squirrel.

Birding highlights in Nyungwe Forest National Park were many. The first would arguably be the frenzy of bird species seen during the first stint of roadside birding on the first morning. Barred Long-tailed Cuckoo, Bar-tailed Trogon, Purple-breasted Sunbird, Great Blue and Black-billed Turacos, Waller’s Starling, African Olive Pigeon, Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater and Mountain Oriole were just some of the notable species seen during our stop. One of the standout sightings was surely finding at least three of the impressively large Great Blue Turacos feeding on the roadside verge only a few metres from us! Along the road edge and the denser vegetation, we found Western Citril, and Streaky and Thick-billed

Seedeaters, amongst others. White-tailed Ant Thrush, Red-throated Alethe and Abyssinian Thrush were other noteworthy highlights found along the main road feeding on insects at times right out in the open! The Albertine Rift endemic Yellow-eyed Black Flycatcher was a superb find by our local guide, and was a nice comparison to the commoner African Dusky and White-eyed Slaty Flycatchers that were also present in the area. Within the denser vegetation and the undergrowth, we required more patience in finding Cinnamon Bracken Warbler, Equatorial Akalat, White-starred Robin, Ruwenzori Hill Babbler and Mountain Illadopsis, to name a few.

Some of the regional specials that would be high up on any birder's wish list that we did manage to find included Ruwenzori Batis, Grauer's Warbler, Dusky and Stripe-breasted Tits, Regal, Ruwenzori Double-collared and Blue-headed Sunbirds, Ruwenzori and Mountain Masked Apalises, Strange Weaver, Doherty's Bushshrike, Handsome Francolin and lastly the absolutely stunning Ruwenzori Turaco that was seen several times and exceptionally well on a number of occasions. Raptors were scarce but included further great looks at the numerous Augur Buzzards in the area as well as finding the handsome Long-crested Eagle and sought-after Mountain Buzzard.



**Nyungwe Forest National Park with adjacent Tea Estate by Heinz Ortmann**

Certain bird groups were very evident as we made our way along the different trails. Along with the previously mentioned species, there were Black-throated and Grey Apalises that brought the apalis species total to four. Several greenbul species were also seen, which included Cabanis's, Olive-breasted, Slender-billed and Yellow-whiskered – *although, one can definitely say they are not the brightest in terms of colours, and difficult to tell apart at the best of times!* Sunbirds as well were a prominent feature, as we had several further sightings of Variable, Northern Double-collared, Collared and Olive over the course of the two days. Yellow-bellied and Black-crowned Waxbills, White-

breasted and Grey-headed Nigritas, Golden-breasted Bunting, Red-faced Woodland Warbler, Slender-billed Starling, White-tailed Blue Flycatcher, Brown-capped Weaver, Western and Yellow-rumped Tinkerbirds, African Green Pigeon and Grey Cuckooshrike all added to the amazing number of forest specials encountered over the two days.

As already mentioned, the highlights were many, but arguably the standout sighting was that of a Red-chested Owlet late on the final afternoon. Having heard an individual on the first afternoon and not having managed to get any views of it, we were not having high expectations of better luck with this bird. The call seemed distant, but we nevertheless tried our luck by whistling an imitation of its call. After quite some time, we noticed a number of species of birds alarm calling and twitching and flying back and forth in a small area of a large tree not too far away from us. The bird activity suggested the owl was close to where all the raucous was going on, but we unfortunately were unable to locate it. We began to whistle again, and subsequent views of the bird were nothing short of brilliant! Any forest owl in Africa is a good find, and the fantastic views of this stunning owl would certainly live long in the memories of the guests. We had been treated to a superb sighting, and having enjoyed this bird to the full, we left it in peace.



L'Hoest's Monkey by Heinz Ortmann

The final morning dawned, and our time at Nyungwe had unfortunately come to an end. Along with the many special birds we had seen, there were a number of significant specials, such as Willard's Sooty Boubou, Neumann's Warbler, Ruwenzori Nightjar and Archer's Ground Robin that had been heard only. It is an amazing forest with some exceptional birding, and we had had a thoroughly enjoyable time with the help of our trustworthy drivers and excellent local guide. The drive back to Kigali allowed us our last looks at several L'Hoest's Monkeys whilst we again found a Ruwenzori Duiker – which on this occasion was a bit more co-operative, allowing most of the guests the chance to see it before it shot off into the forest. The journey back to the capital was pleasant and without much in the way of birds. We ended this lovely extension with a big lunch and a greeting from our wonderful hosts before heading to Kigali Airport, where this amazing adventure, including eighteen action-packed days in Kenya and Tanzania, unfortunately came to an end. It was a most thoroughly enjoyable trip and I thank everyone for their input, help and humour in making this a very special tour!

## Annotated List of species recorded

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

*List powered through the report generator of our partner iGoTerra.*

## Birds (122 in total: 107 seen, 15 heard)

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows Gill, F and D Donsker (Eds). 2017. IOC World Bird List (v 7.1).

**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

### Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies Phasianidae

**Handsome Francolin** *Pternistis nobilis*  
(2) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and 1 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

### Storks Ciconiidae

**Yellow-billed Stork** *Mycteria ibis*  
(1) 1 Kigali 19.5.

### Ibises and Spoonbills Threskiornithidae

**African Sacred Ibis** *Threskiornis aethiopicus*  
(3) Observed Kigali 19-21.5 and observed en route 19-21.5.

**Hadada Ibis** *Bostrychia hagedash nilotica*  
(3) Observed Kigali 19-21.5 and observed en route 19-21.5.

**African Spoonbill** *Platalea alba*  
(1) Kigali 21.5 and en route 21.5.

### Hérons, Egrets, and Bitterns Ardeidae

**Black-crowned Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax nycticorax*  
(1) 1 Kigali 21.5.

**Western Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis*  
(3) Observed Kigali 19-21.5 and observed en route 19-21.5.

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea cinerea*  
(2) Kigali 20.5, Kigali 21.5, en route 20.5 and en route 21.5.

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba melanorhynchos*  
(2) en route 20.5 and en route 21.5.

### Hamerkop Scopidae

**Hamerkop** *Scopus umbretta umbretta*  
(2) en route 20.5 and en route 21.5.

### Hawks, Eagles, and Kites Accipitridae

**African Harrier-Hawk** *Polyboroides typus typus*  
(1) 1 Kigali 19.5.

**Hooded Vulture (EN)** *Necrosyrtes monachus*  
(3) Up to 1 en route 19-21.5 and Kigali 20.5.

**Long-crested Eagle** *Lophaetus occipitalis*  
(2) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and 1 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.



<b>Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk</b> (1) 1 Volcanoes NP 20.5.	<i>Accipiter rufiventris rufiventris</i>
<b>Black Sparrowhawk</b> (1) 1 Volcanoes NP 20.5.	<i>Accipiter melanoleucus melanoleucus</i>
<b>Yellow-billed Kite</b> (3) Kigali 19.5, Kigali 20.5 and observed en route 19-21.5.	<i>Milvus aegyptius parasitus</i>
<b>Mountain Buzzard (NT)</b> (2) 2 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and 1 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.	<i>Buteo oreophilus</i>
<b>Augur Buzzard</b> (3) Observed Nyungwe Forest 22-24.5.	<i>Buteo augur</i>

### Pigeons and Doves *Columbidae*

<b>Speckled Pigeon</b> (1) Kigali 20.5.	<i>Columba guinea guinea</i>
<b>African Olive Pigeon</b> (1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.	<i>Columba arquatrix</i>
<b>Lemon Dove</b> (1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 24.5.	<i>Columba larvata</i>
<b>Red-eyed Dove</b> (5) Volcanoes NP 19.5, Volcanoes NP 20.5 and observed Nyungwe Forest 21-23.5.	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>
<b>Tambourine Dove</b> (1) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 22.5.	<i>Turtur tympanistria</i>
<b>African Green Pigeon</b> (1) 4 Nyungwe Forest 22.5.	<i>Treron calvus salvadorii</i>

### Turacos *Musophagidae*

<b>Great Blue Turaco</b> (2) 10 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.	<i>Corythaeola cristata</i>
<b>Black-billed Turaco</b> (2) 6 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.	<i>Tauraco schuettii emini</i>
<b>Ruwenzori Turaco</b> (3) Observed Nyungwe Forest 21-23.5.	<i>Ruwenzorornis johnstoni kivuensis</i>

### Cuckoos *Cuculidae*

<b>Barred Long-tailed Cuckoo</b> (2) 2 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 23.5.	<i>Cercococcyx montanus montanus</i>
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### Owls *Strigidae*

<b>Red-chested Owlet</b> (2) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and 1 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.	<i>Glaucidium tephronotum medje</i>
<b>Albertine Owlet (VU)</b> (1) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 22.5.	<i>Glaucidium albertinum</i>

**Nightjars and Allies *Caprimulgidae*****Ruwenzori Nightjar***Caprimulgus ruwenzorii ruwenzorii*

(1) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

**Swifts *Apodidae*****Little Swift***Apus affinis aerobates*

(2) Kigali 19.5 and Kigali 21.5.

**Mousebirds *Coliidae*****Speckled Mousebird***Colius striatus kiwuensis*

(3) Observed Nyungwe Forest 21-23.5.

**Trogons *Trogonidae*****Bar-tailed Trogon***Apaloderma vittatum*

(1) 2 Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

**Bee-eaters *Meropidae*****Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater***Merops oreobates*

(2) Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Hornbills *Bucerotidae*****Black-and-white-casqued Hornbill***Bycanistes subcylindricus subquadratus*

(1) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

**African Barbets *Lybiidae*****Western Tinkerbird***Pogoniulus coryphaea hildamariae*

(1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

**Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird***Pogoniulus bilineatus*

(2) 3 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Falcons and Caracaras *Falconidae*****Common Kestrel***Falco tinnunculus rufescens*

(3) 1 Volcanoes NP 19.5, 1 Nyungwe Forest 21.5 and 2 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Wattle-eyes and Batises *Platysteiridae*****Ruwenzori Batis***Batis diops*

(2) 5 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Bushshrikes and Allies *Malaconotidae*****Many-colored Bushshrike***Chlorophoneus multicolor graueri*

(1) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Doherty's Bushshrike***Telophorus dohertyi*

(2) 1 Nyungwe Forest 23.5 and 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 24.5.

- Northern Puffback** *Dryoscopus gambensis malzacii*  
(2) 2 Nyungwe Forest 23.5 and Nyungwe Forest 24.5.
- Mountain Sooty Boubou** *Laniarius poensis holomelas*  
(2) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 23.5 and 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 24.5.
- Willard's Sooty Boubou** *Laniarius willardi*  
(1) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 23.5.
- Lühder's Bushshrike** *Laniarius luehderi*  
(1) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 23.5.
- Tropical Boubou** *Laniarius major major*  
(1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

### Cuckoo-shrikes *Campephagidae*

- Grey Cuckooshrike** *Coracina caesia pura*  
(1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

### Shrikes *Laniidae*

- Southern Fiscal** *Lanius collaris*  
(2) Kigali 19.5, Kigali 20.5, en route 19.5 and en route 20.5.

### Old World Orioles *Oriolidae*

- Mountain Oriole** *Oriolus percivali*  
(2) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

### Monarch Flycatchers *Monarchidae*

- African Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone viridis kivuensis*  
(2) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

### Crows, Jays, and Magpies *Corvidae*

- Pied Crow** *Corvus albus*  
(4) Observed Kigali 19-21.5, observed en route 19-21.5 and Nyungwe Forest 22.5.
- White-necked Raven** *Corvus albicollis*  
(3) en route 20.5, Nyungwe Forest 21.5 and 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

### Fairy Flycatchers *Stenostiridae*

- White-tailed Blue Flycatcher** *Elminia albicauda*  
(1) 2 Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

### Chickadees and Tits *Paridae*

- Dusky Tit** *Melaniparus funereus funereus*  
(2) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.
- Stripe-breasted Tit** *Melaniparus fasciiventer fasciiventer*  
(2) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Bulbuls *Pycnonotidae***

- Dark-capped Bulbul** *Pycnonotus tricolor tricolor*  
(4) Volcanoes NP 19.5 and observed Nyungwe Forest 21-23.5.
- Olive-breasted Greenbul** *Arizelocichla kikuyuensis*  
(2) Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.
- Slender-billed Greenbul** *Stelgidillas gracilirostris gracilirostris*  
(1) 2 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.
- Yellow-whiskered Greenbul** *Eurillas latirostris latirostris*  
(2) Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.
- Cabanis's Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus cabanisi sucosus*  
(1) Nyungwe Forest 23.5.
- Yellow-streaked Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus flavostriatus olivaceogriseus*  
(1) Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Swallows *Hirundinidae***

- Black Saw-wing** *Psalidoprocne pristoptera ruwenzori*  
(3) Observed Nyungwe Forest 21-23.5.
- Rock Martin** *Ptyonoprogne fuligula rufigula*  
(1) Nyungwe Forest 21.5.

**Crombecs, African warblers *Macrosphenidae***

- White-browed Crombec** *Sylvietta leucophrys chloronota*  
(1) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

**Bush-Warblers and Allies *Cettiidae***

- Neumann's Warbler** *Urosphena neumanni*  
(2) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Uncertain *Incertae Sedis 1***

- Grauer's Warbler** *Graueria vittata*  
(2) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 23.5 and 3 Nyungwe Forest 24.5.

**Leaf-Warblers *Phylloscopidae***

- Red-faced Woodland Warbler** *Phylloscopus laetus laetus*  
(2) 1 Nyungwe Forest 23.5 and Nyungwe Forest 24.5.

**Reed-Warblers and Allies *Acrocephalidae***

- Mountain Yellow Warbler** *Iduna similis*  
(1) 2 Volcanoes NP 20.5.

**Grassbirds and Allies *Locustellidae***

- Cinnamon Bracken Warbler** *Bradypterus cinnamomeus cinnamomeus*  
(1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Cisticolas and Allies Cisticolidae**

- Chubb's Cisticola** *Cisticola chubbi chubbi*  
(4) 1 Volcanoes NP 20.5 and up to 3 Nyungwe Forest 21-23.5.
- Ruwenzori Apalis** *Oreolais ruwenzorii*  
(2) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.
- Mountain Masked Apalis** *Apalis personata personata*  
(2) Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.
- Black-throated Apalis** *Apalis jacksoni jacksoni*  
(1) 2 Nyungwe Forest 22.5.
- Chestnut-throated Apalis** *Apalis porphyrolaema*  
(2) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 23.5.
- Grey Apalis** *Apalis cinerea cinerea*  
(1) 3 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.
- Grey-backed Camaroptera** *Camaroptera brevicaudata tincta*  
(1) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 21.5.
- Black-faced Rufous Warbler** *Bathmocercus rufus vulpinus*  
(1) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

**Fulvettas and Ground Babblers Pellorneidae**

- Mountain Illadopsis** *Illadopsis pyrrhoptera pyrrhoptera*  
(2) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and 4 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Old World Warblers Sylviidae**

- Ruwenzori Hill Babbler** *Pseudoalcippe atriceps*  
(2) 2 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and 3 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Yuhinas, White-eyes, and Allies Zosteropidae**

- African Yellow White-eye** *Zosterops senegalensis*  
(3) Up to 2 Nyungwe Forest 21-23.5.

**Starlings Sturnidae**

- Slender-billed Starling** *Onychognathus tenuirostris theresae*  
(1) 12 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.
- Waller's Starling** *Onychognathus walleri elgonensis*  
(2) Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Thrushes and Allies Turdidae**

- White-tailed Ant Thrush** *Neocossyphus poensis*  
(2) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and 1 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.
- Abyssinian Thrush** *Turdus abyssinicus bambusicola*  
(4) Volcanoes NP 19.5, Volcanoes NP 20.5, Nyungwe Forest 21.5 and Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

### Old World Flycatchers *Muscicapidae*

<b>White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher</b>	<i>Melaenornis fischeri toruensis</i>
(3) Observed Nyungwe Forest 21-23.5.	
<b>Yellow-eyed Black Flycatcher</b>	<i>Melaenornis ardesiacus</i>
(1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5.	
<b>African Dusky Flycatcher</b>	<i>Muscicapa adusta pumila</i>
(2) 2 Volcanoes NP 19.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.	
<b>Red-throated Alethe</b>	<i>Pseudalethe poliophrys poliophrys</i>
(1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5.	
<b>White-bellied Robin-Chat</b>	<i>Cossyphicula roberti rufescentior</i>
(1) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 22.5.	
<b>Archer's Ground Robin</b>	<i>Cossypha archeri archeri</i>
(2) 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 23.5.	
<b>White-starred Robin</b>	<i>Pogonocichla stellata ruwenzorii</i>
(1) 3 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.	
<b>Equatorial Akalat</b>	<i>Sheppardia aequatorialis aequatorialis</i>
(1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5.	
<b>African Stonechat</b>	<i>Saxicola torquatus axillaris</i>
(3) Volcanoes NP 19.5, Volcanoes NP 20.5 and observed en route 19-21.5.	

### Sunbirds and Spiderhunters *Nectariniidae*

<b>Collared Sunbird</b>	<i>Hedydipna collaris garguensis</i>
(2) 1 Nyungwe Forest 21.5 and Nyungwe Forest 22.5.	
<b>Green-headed Sunbird</b>	<i>Cyanomitra verticalis viridisplendens</i>
(1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 21.5.	
<b>Blue-headed Sunbird</b>	<i>Cyanomitra alinae</i>
(2) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and 1 heard Nyungwe Forest 23.5.	
<b>Olive Sunbird</b>	<i>Cyanomitra olivacea ragazzii</i>
(1) Nyungwe Forest 22.5.	
<b>Purple-breasted Sunbird</b>	<i>Nectarinia purpureiventris</i>
(2) 6 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.	
<b>Bronzy Sunbird</b>	<i>Nectarinia kilimensis kilimensis</i>
(1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 21.5.	
<b>Ruwenzori Double-collared Sunbird</b>	<i>Cinnyris stuhlmanni</i>
(1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5.	
<b>Northern Double-collared Sunbird</b>	<i>Cinnyris reichenowi reichenowi</i>
(3) Observed Nyungwe Forest 21-23.5.	
<b>Regal Sunbird</b>	<i>Cinnyris regius regius</i>
(2) 5 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.	
<b>Variable Sunbird</b>	<i>Cinnyris venustus igneiventris</i>
(5) Volcanoes NP 19.5, Volcanoes NP 20.5 and observed Nyungwe Forest 21-23.5.	

**Old World Sparrows *Passeridae***

**Northern Grey-headed Sparrow** *Passer griseus ugandae*  
 (3) Observed Kigali 19-21.5 and observed en route 19-21.5.

**Weavers and Allies *Ploceidae***

**Baglafaecht Weaver** *Ploceus baglafaecht stuhlmanni*  
 (1) 1 Kigali 19.5.

**Strange Weaver** *Ploceus alienus*  
 (1) 4 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Brown-capped Weaver** *Ploceus insignis*  
 (1) 3 Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

**Yellow Bishop** *Euplectes capensis crassirostris*  
 (1) en route 21.5.

**Waxbills and Allies *Estrildidae***

**White-breasted Nigrita** *Nigrita fusconotus fusconotus*  
 (1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

**Grey-headed Nigrita** *Nigrita canicapillus schistaceus*  
 (1) Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

**Dusky Crimsonwing** *Cryptospiza jacksoni*  
 (1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

**Red-billed Firefinch** *Lagonosticta senegala ruberrima*  
 (2) Kigali 19.5 and Kigali 21.5.

**Yellow-bellied Waxbill** *Coccopygia quartinia kilimensis*  
 (1) 2 Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

**Fawn-breasted Waxbill** *Estrilda paludicola roseicrissa*  
 (1) 2 Nyungwe Forest 21.5.

**Black-crowned Waxbill** *Estrilda nonnula nonnula*  
 (2) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and 6 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Wagtails and Pipits *Motacillidae***

**African Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla aguimp vidua*  
 (3) Observed Kigali 19-21.5, Volcanoes NP 19.5 and Volcanoes NP 20.5.

**Finches, Euphonias *Fringillidae***

**Western Citril** *Crithagra frontalis*  
 (1) Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Thick-billed Seed eater** *Crithagra burtoni tanganjicae*  
 (2) Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

**Streaky Seed eater** *Crithagra striolata graueri*  
 (3) Volcanoes NP 19.5, Volcanoes NP 20.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

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

(1) Volcanoes NP 19.5.

### **Buntings, Sparrows and Allies *Emberizidae***

#### **Golden-breasted Bunting**

*Emberiza flaviventris kalaharica*

(1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

## **Mammals (6 in total: 6 seen)**

**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

### **Old World monkeys *Cercopithecidae***

#### **L'Hoest's Monkey**

*Cercopithecus lhoesti*

(3) Observed Nyungwe Forest 21-23.5.

#### **Vervet**

*Chlorocebus pygerythrus*

(2) Volcanoes NP 19.5 and Nyungwe Forest 22.5.

### **Gorilla, Chimpanzees, Orangutan *Hominidae***

#### **(Mountain) Eastern Gorilla**

*Gorilla beringei beringei*

(1) 8 Volcanoes NP 19.5.

### **Squirrels *Sciuridae***

#### **Carruther's Mountain Squirrel**

*Funisciurus carruthersi*

(2) 1 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

#### **Ruwenzori Sun Squirrel**

*Heliosciurus ruwenzorii*

(1) 1 Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

#### **Boehm's Bush Squirrel**

*Paraxerus boehmi*

(2) 4 Nyungwe Forest 22.5 and Nyungwe Forest 23.5.

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