



ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

South Africa

Western Cape Extension XI

24th to 29th November 2017 (6 days)

Trip Report



African Oystercatchers by Gareth Robbins

Trip report compiled by Tour Leader, Gareth Robbins

Tour Summary

Today was our very first day of the Western Cape Extension. Once both flights had finally landed, we made our way out of the mayhem of the airport and then headed towards Simons Town. We received the unfortunate news that our pelagic was cancelled for the entire weekend due to high winds. Although this was unfortunate, it was also a blessing in disguise, as it then opened up a multitude of



Orange-breasted Sunbird by Gareth Robbins

other options for us to explore. We got to Simons Town and checked into our exquisite hotel before embarking on our journey to the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve. As we approached the reserve, we witnessed Kelp Gulls and a White-necked Raven. In the reserve the wind was gusty and rather fierce; we decided to take more of an isolated route away from the crowded pathways, and this led us through an abundance of flowering yellow Pincushion called Kreupelhout and many white flowers of the Everlastings. En route we heard numerous sunbirds calling, and we had fabulous sightings of Orange-breasted Sunbirds and marvellous views, as well as photographic opportunities, of a male Malachite Sunbird poised in a tree close by.

We carried on and came to a sudden halt as we saw a large male Angulated Tortoise insight. After maximising this visual experience, we endured along the road, and soon after we immediately spotted a larger but different species of tortoise, namely a Leopard Tortoise. In addition, we revelled in the fact that we got some fabulous views of a small family group of the extremely rare and Fynbos endemic: the Bontebok! Within the bird aspect, we felt we were rather skilled in finding Cape Bunting, Fiscal Flycatcher, Karoo Prinia, Cape Bulbul and Cape Robin-Chat. To top it all off, we had glorious views of the Atlantic Ocean from this point, and a couple of terns welcomed us as they flew around. Further along the road, we found a somewhat sheltered spot to scope out the hefty colony of terns. Within this colony, we got adequate glimpses of Greater Crested, Common and Sandwich Terns. In the distance on the beach, we checked out a Kittlitz's Plover skirting itself on the edge of the grass and the sand, and we were also privileged to glance at two majestic pairs of African Oystercatchers. As we were making our way back to the entrance gate, we were in luck and observed a male and a female Cape Sugarbird perched delicately on branches as they swayed in the vicious wind. When we arrived back at our hotel in Simons Town, we were presented with a substantial and homely dinner.

After a superb breakfast, whilst overlooking False Bay, we again got back onto our tour vehicle and ventured in the direction of Rooiels. As we passed through Simons Town, we viewed the regular Speckled Pigeons and Wood Doves. We then continued with our route and passed through the quaint towns of Fish Hoek and Kalk Bay. We made



Cape Robin-Chat by Gareth Robbins

a brief stop in Muizenberg to take a look at the captivating Sacred Ibis, Little Egret, Reed Cormorant and African Spoonbill. As we carried on along the Strandfontein Road, also known as the ‘Coastal Road’, we came across the towns of both Somerset West and Gordon’s Bay, and ultimately arrived in



Female Cape Rockjumper by Gareth Robbins

long enough for her to approach us for some very satisfactory photographs of her – *our mission was complete!* As we walked back to the car, we had brief glimpses of a Cape Siskin and sitting right above this little bird was a Cape Grassbird.

Rooiels. We disembarked from the vehicle and were for once at a standstill as we felt the calm and gentle wind upon us. We then made a quick stop to get some formidable views of Orange-breasted Sunbird before commencing with our search for the famous, yet aloof, Cape Rockjumper!

As we walked and walked we could hear the faint and distant calls of the bird but had no such luck in actually seeing it; but with some perseverance and severe patience, we did indeed end up seeing the attractive bird through the spotting scope, below the immense mountain ahead on a large boulder. We gazed at this female for a lengthy period of time,

We then made our way to Stony Point Penguin Colony, situated in the seaside town of Betty’s Bay. As we arrived at the entrance to the colony, we spotted a Southern Boubou and then immediately saw the highly endangered penguins. Furthermore, we saw four species of cormorants, namely the Bank, White-breasted, Cape and Crowned Cormorants, followed by distant views of Cape Gannets which were flying over the open water towards the horizon. We then took a drive to Harold Porter Botanical Gardens, situated on the mountainside of Betty’s Bay. We decided to take a walk through the lush gardens but wanted to avoid the large crowds of people and the troop of Chacma Baboons.

On our walk, we saw Sombre Greenbul, Cape Baits, African Dusky Flycatcher, Cape Robin-Chat, Cape Canaries, Sweet Waxbills, Cape White-eyes and a pair of African Paradise Flycatchers. After an extremely fulfilling lunch, we set back out into the gardens. We came across some flowering Pincushions which were supporting good numbers of Cape Sugarbirds, and we also managed to get some better views of Orange-



Young Chacma Baboon eating a Pincushion flower by Gareth Robbins

breasted Sunbirds. We tried to see the very shy Victorin's Warbler, but sadly we only heard the bird call. We stopped briefly to have a look at the Chacma Baboons eating the Pincushion flower heads and



Sleepy Spotted Eagle-Owl by Gareth Robbins

then as we neared the exit, we came across two Cape Spurfwowl. We then hopped back onto the tour vehicle and enjoyed a very relaxing drive back to Simons Town whilst spotting a few Bottle-nosed Dolphins along the way.

After a lovely breakfast, yet again, we embarked on a scenic excursion along the famous Chapmans Peak drive through Hout Bay and Constantia Neck and then down to Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. We entered the gardens through the top gate and along the way, we saw African Olive Pigeons flying overhead and we also had fleeting glances at a couple of Southern Double-collared Sunbirds. We covered a good part of the botanical gardens and came across a vocal Common Chaffinch before eventually finding what we were looking for: the resident Spotted Eagle-Owl. The owl was with a chick at the main entrance gate. We then continued to the top entrance gate and finally had a phenomenal sighting of a male Southern Double-collared Sunbird.

We then drove through the Mother City to the popular Strandfontein Sewage Works, and as soon as we arrived, we were greeted by Cape Shovelers and Cape Teals. Black-winged Stilts and Pied Avocets were in abundance and we were also fortunate to see the awe-inspiring Greater Flamingos in flight. In addition, we saw Maccoa Ducks, Southern Pochard, Yellow-billed Ducks, Red-billed Teals and a Little Grebe. There were also a couple of little brown species, such as Lesser Swamp Warblers, Levallant's Cisticolas and African Pipits seen on the drive. An African Marsh Harrier suddenly arrived on the scene and we followed the low-flying bird to try and get some good photographs of it. At the same time, a couple of Great White Pelicans appeared and we got some delightful views of these large birds flying over the water. Moreover, there were numerous Terns, such as Common, Greater-crested, Sandwich and Caspian Terns, as well as Common Moorhen, Red-knobbed Coots and one single Bar-tailed Godwit.

We left the sewage works in good spirits and we were highly content with our findings. We then took a leisurely drive back towards Simons Town and stopped off in a small seaside town called Fish Hoek for a late lunch before heading back to the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve. When we arrived in the reserve, we



Male Cape Batis by Gareth Robbins

paid attention to visiting a unique section; here the wind was calm and peaceful and within this constructive environment, we got incredible looks and photographs of African Oystercatchers displaying and chasing each other. We also saw an immature Grey Heron and a couple of appealing



Cape Shoveler by Gareth Robbins

sightings of Yellow-billed Kites and Common Buzzards. We arrived at the West Coast National Park and not long after entering the park, we had impressive views of Karoo Scrub Robin, Long-billed Crombec and two vocal Karoo Larks perching themselves on top of a bush. We then visited the Abrahamskraal Bird Hide; and as we arrived at the hide, we saw a large herd of Common Eland. We saw a pair of White-throated Swallows actually nesting inside the hide.

From within the hide, we saw a diversity of African Spoonbills, African Swamphen, Black Crake, and Yellow and Black-headed Canaries! We then ventured forth to the main restaurant area before heading to the Seeberg lookout point. En route we had extraordinary looks at a male Southern Black Korhaan and we also heard it call. Once we made it to the lookout point, which overlooked the Langebaan Lagoon, we saw Little Swifts and a female Rock Kestrel. The pivotal highlight, however, was seeing a Black Harrier flying below the lookout, offering us perfect views of it gracefully in flight. We visited the Seeberg Hide next, where we saw both Greater and Lesser Flamingos, a Eurasian Curlew and Little Tern, as well as a couple of Grey Plovers and African Oystercatchers. After some great sightings, we earned ourselves a fabulous lunch at the Geelbek Restaurant, and here we were entertained by the resident colony of Cape Weavers as we ate.

We went onto visiting the Geelbek hide, which was completely ideal as it offered us sightings of Little Stint, Sanderling, Common Greenshank, Curlew Sandpipers, Common Ringed Plover, Bar-tailed Godwit and two Chestnut-banded Plovers. We exited the National Park and made our way to Ceres (the home of the famous Ceres juices), stopping

White-fronted Plovers before driving to the south-western tip of Africa. We finally made our way back to our hotel in Simons Town after a full day of outstanding scenery and great birding!

We left Simons Town early to miss the majority of the Cape Town traffic, and it only took us one hour to get to the other side of Cape Town. Here we lavished in a Mugg-and-Bean breakfast whilst we looked across Table Bay at the awe-inspiring Table Mountain. After some panoramic photo taking, we drove to the West Coast National Park. Along the way, we had many



White-fronted Plover by Gareth Robbins

briefly for European Bee-eaters and a Jackal Buzzard. We took the turnoff to the beer and wine making town of Darling and on the way saw Blue Cranes (one pair with two chicks) and Capped Wheatear. Eventually, we made it through the Michell's Pass and arrived at our luxurious guest house in Ceres, and here we were treated to a magical dinner prepared by the hosts.



Puffadder by Gareth Robbins

We left at first light and went on an onward journey to the Tankwa Karoo. While travelling, we made a brief stop at a small dam, and here we saw African Darter and African Spoonbill. Beyond this stop, we had two different sightings of Grey-winged Francolins which were standing stationery along the roadside – these birds are usually enormously hard to find, so it was an elite privilege to view them from such a remarkably close distance. Our next stop off point was at Karoopoort, where we, at long last, tracked down the Namaqua Warbler! What's more, we too saw White-backed and Red-faced Mousebirds, as well as African Reed Warbler, Bokmakierie, Yellow-bellied Eremomela, Long-billed Crombec, Mountain Wheatear and Southern Masked Weaver. We then drove along the well-known R355, spotting Karoo Chat, large-billed lark, Karoo Eremomela and the stunning Rufous-eared Eremomela. The 'icing on the cake' was indeed observing a massive, thick Puffadder moving tremendously slowly across the road into the nearby bushes, followed by many angry birds!

We stopped in the Skitterykloof and were really fortunate to see Acacia Pied Barbet, Cape Sparrow, Booted Eagle and a pair of Fairy Flycatchers. At this point, it had reached well over thirty degrees Celsius, so we took a turn into the eccentric Tankwa Padstal (farmstall) and rewarded ourselves with a cold drink before venturing back along the R355. We had formidable sightings of a male Pririt Bats, Tractrac Chat, Spike-heeled Lark and an immature Pale Chanting Goshawk. Our next adventure involved driving through the Skitterykloof and Katbakkies Pass and as we neared the end of the pass, we pulled off at a gigantic dam



Karoo Eremomela by Gareth Robbins

and were highly surprised to see a Western Osprey sitting steadily on the telephone pole. Moreover, we caught sight of a single Grey Rhebok relaxing quietly by the dam water. We took the road which led back towards Ceres and were at a standstill at another large dam. Here we watched African Shelduck from afar, and on the way down the Gydo Pass, we saw a gorgeous Protea Canary up close. *The Tankwa Karoo certainly delivered way beyond our expectations!*



Pririt Batis by Gareth Robbins

Today was the final day of our tour! We embarked on a farm road which was just outside the town of Ceres and succeeded in seeing Malachite Sunbird, African Pipit, Yellow Canaries, Cape Sparrows, as well as having exceptional sightings of Large-billed Larks perched on the adjacent fence. Two dams were positioned along this road and immature Greater Flamingos were seen, as well as Cape Shovelers, Glossy Ibis and multiple African Spoonbills. We gave our farewells to Ceres and ventured back to Cape Town International Airport. On our drive, we drove through the Huguenot Tunnel (which goes through the Hottentot Hollands Mountains) and the final new bird we saw for our trip was the Black-headed Heron. We bid farewell to each other at the airport and hoped to see each other again on future tours.

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 (165 in total: 162 seen, 3 heard)

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows Gill, F and D Donsker (Eds). 2017. IOC World Bird List (v 7.2).

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

Struthio camelus australis

(2) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 26.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl *Anatidae*

Spur-winged Goose

Plectropterus gambensis niger

(3) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Die Dorp op die Berg 28.11.

Egyptian Goose

Alopochen aegyptiaca

(6) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Stony Point 25.11, 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11, 1 Darling 27.11, 1 Die Dorp op die Berg 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

South African Shelduck*Tadorna cana*

(1) 1 Gydo Pass 28.11.

Cape Teal*Anas capensis*

(1) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11.

Yellow-billed Duck*Anas undulata undulata*

(4) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, West Coast NP 27.11, 1 Gydo Pass 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Cape Shoveler*Anas smithii*

(1) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11.

Red-billed Teal*Anas erythrorhyncha*

(3) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 Ceres 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Southern Pochard*Netta erythrophthalma brunnea*

(3) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 Gydo Pass 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Maccoa Duck (NT)*Oxyura maccoa*

(1) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11.

Guineafowl Numididae**Helmeted Guineafowl***Numida meleagris*

(4) 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11 and up to 1 Ceres 27-29.11.

Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies Phasianidae**Grey-winged Francolin***Scleroptila afra*

(1) 1 Theronberg 28.11.

Cape Spurfowl*Pternistis capensis*

(5) 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11, 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11 and up to 1 Ceres 27-29.11.

Penguins Spheniscidae**African Penguin (EN)***Spheniscus demersus*

(1) 1 Stony Point 25.11.

Grebes Podicipedidae**Little Grebe***Tachybaptus ruficollis capensis*

(3) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Flamingos Phoenicopteridae**Greater Flamingo***Phoenicopterus roseus*

(3) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Lesser Flamingo (NT)*Phoeniconaias minor*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

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

(5) 1 Cape Town 25.11, 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11, 1 Ceres 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Hadada Ibis*Bostrychia hagedash hagedash*

(4) 1 Cape Town 24.11, 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11, 1 Darling 27.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Glossy Ibis*Plegadis falcinellus*

(3) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 Die Dorp op die Berg 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

African Spoonbill

Platalea alba

(5) 1 Cape Town 25.11, 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11, 1 Ceres 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Hérons, Egrets, and Bitterns *Ardeidae*

Western Cattle Egret

Bubulcus ibis

(2) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11 and 1 Darling 27.11.

Grey Heron

Ardea cinerea cinerea

(2) 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11 and 1 Hermon 27.11.

Black-headed Heron

Ardea melanocephala

(1) 1 Cape Town 29.11.

Little Egret

Egretta garzetta garzetta

(4) 1 Cape Town 25.11, 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 Die Dorp op die Berg 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Pelicans *Pelecanidae*

Great White Pelican

Pelecanus onocrotalus

(2) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Boobies and Gannets *Sulidae*

Cape Gannet (VU)

Morus capensis

(1) 1 Stony Point 25.11.

Cormorants and Shags *Phalacrocoracidae*

Reed Cormorant

Microcarbo africanus africanus

(4) 1 Cape Town 25.11, 1 Hermon 27.11, 1 Ceres 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Crowned Cormorant (NT)

Microcarbo coronatus

(2) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11 and 1 Stony Point 25.11.

Bank Cormorant (EN)

Phalacrocorax neglectus

(1) 1 Stony Point 25.11.

White-breasted Cormorant

Phalacrocorax lucidus

(4) 1 Stony Point 25.11, 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Die Dorp op die Berg 28.11.

Cape Cormorant (NT)

Phalacrocorax capensis

(3) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Stony Point 25.11 and 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 26.11.

Anhingas *Anhingidae*

African Darter

Anhinga rufa rufa

(1) 1 Ceres 28.11.

Hawks, Eagles, and Kites *Accipitridae*

Black-winged Kite

Elanus caeruleus caeruleus

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

African Harrier-Hawk

Polyboroides typus typus

(1) 1 Darling 27.11.

Booted Eagle

Hieraaetus pennatus

(1) 1 Skitterykloof 28.11.

Pale Chanting Goshawk

Melierax canorus

(1) 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

African Marsh Harrier

Circus ranivorus

(1) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11.

Black Harrier (VU)

Circus maurus

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Yellow-billed Kite

Milvus aegyptius

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Common Buzzard

Buteo buteo

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Jackal Buzzard

Buteo rufofuscus

(4) 1 Cape Town 25.11, 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Gydo Pass 28.11.

Bustards *Otididae*

Southern Black Korhaan (VU)

Afrotis afra

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Rails, Gallinules, and Coots *Rallidae*

African Rail

Rallus caerulescens

(1) 1 heard West Coast NP 27.11.

Black Crake

Amaurornis flavirostra

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

African Swampphen

Porphyrio madagascariensis

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Common Moorhen

Gallinula chloropus meridionalis

(2) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Red-knobbed Coot

Fulica cristata

(4) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11, 1 Gydo Pass 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Cranes *Gruidae*

Blue Crane (VU)

Grus paradisea

(2) 1 Darling 27.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Oystercatchers *Haematopodidae*

African Oystercatcher (NT)

Haematopus moquini

(3) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 26.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Stilts and Avocets *Recurvirostridae*

Black-winged Stilt

Himantopus himantopus

(3) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Pied Avocet

Recurvirostra avosetta

(2) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Plovers and Lapwings *Charadriidae*

Blacksmith Lapwing

Vanellus armatus

(3) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Gydo Pass 28.11.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola squatarola*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Common Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula tundrae*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Kittlitz's Plover *Charadrius pecuarius*

(2) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

White-fronted Plover *Charadrius marginatus*

(2) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 26.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Chestnut-banded Plover (NT) *Charadrius pallidus pallidus*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Sandpipers and Allies Scolopacidae

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*

(2) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Eurasian Curlew (NT) *Numenius arquata*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*

(1) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11.

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

(2) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres interpres*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Sanderling *Calidris alba alba*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers Laridae

Hartlaub's Gull *Chroicocephalus hartlaubii*

(4) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Stony Point 25.11, 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus*

(4) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Stony Point 25.11, 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia*

(2) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Greater Crested Tern *Thalasseus bergii bergii*

(3) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis*

(3) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Little Tern *Sternula albifrons*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Common Tern

Sterna hirundo hirundo

(3) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Pigeons and Doves *Columbidae*

Rock Dove

Columba livia

(3) 1 Simon's Town 25.11, 1 Cape Town 26.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Speckled Pigeon

Columba guinea phaeonota

(4) 1 Simon's Town 25.11, 1 Cape Town 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

African Olive Pigeon

Columba arquatrix

(1) 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11.

Red-eyed Dove

Streptopelia semitorquata

(1) 1 Darling 27.11.

Ring-necked Dove

Streptopelia capicola

(4) 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11, 1 Ceres 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Laughing Dove

Spilopelia senegalensis senegalensis

(2) 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Ceres 28.11.

Namaqua Dove

Oena capensis capensis

(3) 1 West Coast NP 27.11, 1 Skitterykloof 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Owls *Strigidae*

Spotted Eagle-Owl

Bubo africanus africanus

(1) 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11.

Swifts *Apodidae*

African Black Swift

Apus barbatus barbatus

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Little Swift

Apus affinis

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

White-rumped Swift

Apus caffer

(1) 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

Mousebirds *Coliidae*

White-backed Mousebird

Colius colius

(1) 1 Karoopoort 28.11.

Red-faced Mousebird

Urocolius indicus

(1) 1 Karoopoort 28.11.

Bee-eaters *Meropidae*

European Bee-eater

Merops apiaster

(3) 1 West Coast NP 27.11, 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

African Barbets *Lybiidae*

Acacia Pied Barbet

Tricholaema leucomelas

(1) 1 Skitterykloof 28.11.

Falcons and Caracaras *Falconidae*

Rock Kestrel*Falco rupicolus*

(2) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Wattle-eyes and Batises *Platysteiridae*

Cape Batis*Batis capensis*

(2) 1 Stony Point 25.11 and 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11.

Pririt Batis*Batis pririt*

(1) 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

Bushshrikes and Allies *Malaconotidae*

Bokmakierie*Telophorus zeylonus*

(1) 1 Karoopoort 28.11.

Southern Boubou*Laniarius ferrugineus*

(1) 1 Stony Point 25.11.

Shrikes *Laniidae*

Southern Fiscal*Lanius collaris*

(3) 1 West Coast NP 27.11, 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Monarch Flycatchers *Monarchidae*

African Paradise Flycatcher*Terpsiphone viridis*

(2) 1 Stony Point 25.11 and 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11.

Crows, Jays, and Magpies *Corvidae*

Pied Crow*Corvus albus*

(4) 1 Cape Town 24.11, 1 Cape Town 26.11, 1 Darling 27.11 and 1 Ceres 28.11.

White-necked Raven*Corvus albicollis*

(4) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Cape Town 25.11, 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11 and 1 Theronberg 28.11.

Rockjumpers *Chaetopidae*

Cape Rockjumper*Chaetops frenatus*

(1) 1 Rooi-El 25.11.

Fairy Flycatchers *Stenostiridae*

Fairy Flycatcher*Stenostira scita*

(1) 1 Skitterykloof 28.11.

Larks *Alaudidae*

Spike-heeled Lark*Chersomanes albofasciata*

(1) 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

Karoo Lark*Calendulauda albescens*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Large-billed Lark*Galerida magnirostris*

(2) 1 Eierkop 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Bulbuls *Pycnonotidae***Cape Bulbul***Pycnonotus capensis*

(4) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

Sombre Greenbul*Andropadus importunus*

(2) 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11 and 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11.

Swallows *Hirundinidae***Black Saw-wing***Psalidoprocne pristoptera*

(1) 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11.

Barn Swallow*Hirundo rustica rustica*

(4) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11, 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

White-throated Swallow*Hirundo albigularis*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Rock Martin*Ptyonoprogne fuligula*

(5) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Rooi-Els 25.11, 1 Cape Town 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

Crombecs, African warblers *Macrosphenidae***Cape Grassbird***Sphenoeacus afer*

(2) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11 and 1 Rooi-Els 25.11.

Long-billed Crombec*Sylvietta rufescens*

(2) 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Karooport 28.11.

Victorin's Warbler*Cryptillas victorini*

(1) 1 heard Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11.

Reed-Warblers and Allies *Acrocephalidae***Lesser Swamp Warbler***Acrocephalus gracilirostris*

(1) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11.

African Reed Warbler*Acrocephalus baeticatus*

(1) 1 Karooport 28.11.

Cisticolas and Allies *Cisticolidae***Grey-backed Cisticola***Cisticola subruficapilla*

(4) 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11, 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Levaillant's Cisticola*Cisticola tinniens*

(1) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11.

Neddicky*Cisticola fulvicapilla*

(1) 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11.

Karoo Prinia*Prinia maculosa*

(5) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11, 1 heard Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Karooport 28.11.

Namaqua Warbler*Phragmacia substriata*

(1) 1 Karooport 28.11.

Rufous-eared Warbler*Malcorus pectoralis*

(1) 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

Cinnamon-breasted Warbler*Euryptila subcinnamomea*

(1) 1 heard Skitterykloof 28.11.

Yellow-bellied Eremomela*Eremomela icteropygialis*

(1) 1 Karoopoort 28.11.

Karoo Eremomela*Eremomela gregalis*

(1) 1 Eierkop 28.11.

Old World Warblers *Sylviidae***Chestnut-vented Warbler***Sylvia subcoerulea*

(1) 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

Yuhinas, White-eyes, and Allies *Zosteropidae***Cape White-eye***Zosterops virens*

(4) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11, 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11 and 1 Karoopoort 28.11.

Sugarbirds *Promeropidae***Cape Sugarbird***Promerops cafer*

(3) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11 and 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11.

Starlings *Sturnidae***Common Starling***Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris*

(3) 1 Cape Town 25.11, 1 Cape Town 26.11 and 1 Darling 27.11.

Pied Starling*Lamprotornis bicolor*

(3) 1 Darling 27.11, 1 Theronsberg 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Red-winged Starling*Onychognathus morio morio*

(5) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Rooi-Els 25.11, 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Theronsberg 28.11.

Thrushes and Allies *Turdidae***Olive Thrush***Turdus olivaceus*

(3) 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11, 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Old World Flycatchers *Muscicapidae***Karoo Scrub Robin***Cercotrichas coryphoeus*

(3) 1 West Coast NP 27.11, 1 Karoopoort 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Fiscal Flycatcher*Melaenornis silens*

(2) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11 and 1 Karoopoort 28.11.

African Dusky Flycatcher*Muscicapa adusta*

(2) 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11 and 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11.

Cape Robin-Chat*Cossypha caffra*

(5) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11, 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Gydo Pass 28.11.

Cape Rock Thrush*Monticola rupestris*

(1) 1 Rooi-Els 25.11.

African Stonechat

(1) 1 Theronberg 28.11.

*Saxicola torquatus***Karoo Chat**

(1) 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

*Emarginata schlegelii***Tractrac Chat**

(1) 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

*Emarginata tractrac***Mountain Wheatear**

(1) 1 Karoopoort 28.11.

*Myrmecocichla monticola monticola***Capped Wheatear**

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

*Oenanthe pileata***Familiar Chat**

(3) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Rooi-Els 25.11 and 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

*Oenanthe familiaris***Sunbirds and Spiderhunters Nectariniidae****Orange-breasted Sunbird**

(2) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11 and 1 Rooi-Els 25.11.

*Anthobaphes violacea***Malachite Sunbird**

(2) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

*Nectarinia famosa famosa***Southern Double-collared Sunbird**

(3) 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11, 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11 and 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

*Cinnyris chalybeus***Old World Sparrows Passeridae****House Sparrow**

(1) 1 Stony Point 25.11.

*Passer domesticus***Cape Sparrow**

(2) 1 Skitterykloof 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

*Passer melanurus***Weavers and Allies Ploceidae****Cape Weaver**

(2) 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

*Ploceus capensis***Southern Masked Weaver**

(2) 1 Karoopoort 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

*Ploceus velatus***Southern Red Bishop**

(2) 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Theronberg 28.11.

*Euplectes orix***Yellow Bishop**

(2) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11 and 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11.

*Euplectes capensis***Waxbills and Allies Estrildidae****Swee Waxbill**

(1) 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11.

*Coccyzygia melanotis***Common Waxbill**

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

*Estrilda astrild***Indigobirds Viduidae****Pin-tailed Whydah**

(1) 1 Ceres 28.11.

Vidua macroura

Wagtails and Pipits *Motacillidae***Cape Wagtail***Motacilla capensis capensis*

(5) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11, 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

African Pipit*Anthus cinnamomeus*

(4) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11, 1 Die Dorp op die Berg 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Finches, Euphonias *Fringillidae***Common Chaffinch***Fringilla coelebs*

(1) 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11.

Forest Canary*Crithagra scotops*

(1) 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11.

Cape Siskin*Crithagra totta*

(2) 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11 and 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11.

Yellow Canary*Crithagra flaviventris*

(3) 1 West Coast NP 27.11, 1 Karooport 28.11 and 1 Ceres 29.11.

Brimstone Canary*Crithagra sulphurata*

(1) 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11.

White-throated Canary*Crithagra albogularis*

(1) 1 Karooport 28.11.

Protea Canary*Crithagra leucoptera*

(1) 1 Gydo Pass 28.11.

Cape Canary*Serinus canicollis*

(2) 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11 and 1 Gydo Pass 28.11.

Black-headed Canary*Serinus alario*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Buntings, Sparrows and Allies *Emberizidae***Cape Bunting***Emberiza capensis*

(3) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Rooi-Els 25.11 and 1 Gydo Pass 28.11.

Reptiles (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

Tortoises *Testudinidae***Angulated Tortoise***Chersina angulata*

(3) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11, 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Leopard Tortoise*Stigmochelys pardalis*

(1) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11.

Agamas *Agamidae***Southern Rock Agama***Agama atra atra*

(2) 1 Stony Point 25.11 and 1 Skitterykloof 28.11.

Spinytail Lizards *Cordylidae*

Cape girdled lizard

Cordylus cordylus

(2) 1 Stony Point 25.11 and 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Colubrid snakes *Colubridae*

Grass Snake

Natrix natrix

(1) 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11.

Vipers *Viperidae*

Puff Adder

Bitis arietans arietans

(1) 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

Mammals (10 in total: 10 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

Hyraxes *Procaviidae*

Rock Hyrax

Procavia capensis

(2) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11 and 1 Stony Point 25.11.

Old World monkeys *Cercopithecidae*

Chacma Baboon

Papio ursinus ursinus

(1) 1 Harold Porter Botanical Garden 25.11.

True Mice and Rats, Gerbils, Spiny Mice, Crested Rat *Muridae*

Four-striped Grass Mouse

Rhabdomys pumilio

(3) 1 Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens 26.11, 1 West Coast NP 27.11 and 1 Tanqua Karoo 28.11.

Mongoose *Herpestidae*

Cape Grey Mongoose

Herpestes pulverulentus

(1) 1 Strandfontein Sewage Works 26.11.

Sea Lions *Otariidae*

Afro-Australian Fur Seal

Arctocephalus pusillus

(1) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 26.11.

Oceanic Dolphins *Delphinidae*

Indo-pacific Bottlenose Dolphin

Tursiops aduncus

(1) 1 Rooi-Els 25.11.

Cattle, Antelopes, Sheep, Goats *Bovidae*

Blesbok

Damaliscus pygargus

(1) 1 Cape of Good Hope NR 24.11.

Grey Rhebok*Pelea capreolus*

(1) 1 Die Dorp op die Berg 28.11.

Steenbok*Raphicerus campestris campestris*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

Common Eland*Tragelaphus oryx*

(1) 1 West Coast NP 27.11.

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