

Tanzania Highlights

Naturetrek Tour Report

7 - 21 November 2013



Caracal, Ngorongoro Crater



Dwarf Bittern, Tarangire NP



Elephants, Tarangire NP



Lions, Ngorongoro Crater

Report & images compiled by Zul Bhatia



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Participants:

- Steve McFall
- Lisa McFall
- Kevin Fowler
- Ann Fowler
- Richard Kedie
- Carole Harvey
- Greg Knowles
- Lindsay Burns

Summary

The two week trip to Northern Tanzania visiting the National Parks and the Ngorongoro Crater, lived up to all expectations and more. It had been an incredibly dry period and so animals were concentrated at places with water, and these areas proved a magnet for Lions. In a normal year 60-80 Lions are seen, but this on this trip we encountered an incredible, record-breaking 162!!! Other cats included two Leopards, four Cheetahs, and a Serval, but the outstanding animal of the trip was a Caracal in the Ngorongoro Crater - a rarely seen cat. It even did its legendary, lightning strike in to the base of a bush and came out with a rodent! Because of the very dry weather, the vast herds of Wildebeest and Zebras were not in the areas we visited in the Serengeti (although we still saw thousands). We heard that they had left the Masai Mara and had taken a very westerly route in to the areas outside the park and in to the Western Corridor. Because of the delay in the short rains arriving, opportunistic breeders such as bishops, whydahs, widow-birds and weavers were mainly not in breeding plumages, and therefore not very obvious. Despite that, a very respectable 311 bird species were recorded.

There were some very keen and enthusiastic, as well as knowledgeable observers and for this I (Zul) was very grateful. It resulted in some excellent sightings. Steve & Kevin in particular excelled themselves at spotting rhinos from the balcony of our lodge on the Ngorongoro Crater rim and they even found a bushpig (a very rare sighting for down there) and managed to show it to the rest of us. Our two local driver / guides, Yahaya and George were outstanding and of course contributed greatly to the success of the safari. Very pleasant personalities, nothing was too much trouble for them in order to keep us happy. Not only did they have a great deal of existing knowledge, George in particular had a whole lot of reference books with him and his thirst for new knowledge was amazing. He said that he really enjoyed learning new birds from us.

Day 1

Thursday 7th November

People departed from various UK airports and arrived in Amsterdam in the evening ready for the next day's flight to Tanzania. The guests stayed overnight at an airport hotel.

Day 2

Friday 8th November

Zul met up with all the clients before boarding the plane. We were scheduled to depart at 1015, but left about twenty minutes later. It was a fairly full flight, but very comfortable. We arrived at Kilimanjaro International Airport on schedule at 2050. There were no problems with any of the formalities and all our luggage was there too, so all was well. After some of us had changed some money in to Tanzanian Shillings, we left the airport just after 2200 with driver Alfred in a transfer bus to Mountain Village our base for the next two nights. We got there just before 2300.

Day 3

Saturday 9th November

We woke up to the lovely surroundings of Mountain Village with its lush vegetation and views of Lake Duluti. Some of us managed a bit of birding in the grounds before / after breakfast. The first African species were quickly clocked up including Silvery-cheeked Hornbill, Amethyst Sunbird and Red-eyed Dove.

Straight after breakfast, Zul met up with the local representative for a tour briefing and to go over the details of the itinerary. Yahaya and George, who were to be our drivers for the whole safari had also arrived and were introduced to the group. After that, we left Mountain Village at 0845 with packed lunches for a full day at Arusha National Park. Tengeru village, just outside Mountain Village was very busy indeed as it was Market Day. About half an hour later, we were birding at the entrance gate of the park whilst the drivers got the entry permits organised. We were quickly seeing our first large mammals of the safari at 'Serengeti Ndogo' (Little Serengeti in Swahili) and started our safari proper. Our first major stop was at the Momella Gate where we picked up a ranger (the very glamorous Zara) and had a walk to the Tulusia Waterfall. She took us quite close to a large herd of Buffalo (quite thrilling when you are on foot) and we had a few Giraffes towards the end of the walk too. Birds were quite numerous with highlights being a Grey Wagtail on the river and many, many of the gorgeous White-fronted Bee-eaters.

Next we went on the Momella Lakes circuit. We sat on the grass at the edge of Small Momella and had our lunches. Little Grebes were very numerous and we saw a number of other species too including Southern Pochard. After lunch, we continued on around the lakes. There were massive numbers of flamingos this time (in some years there are very few) and there was a very good selection and numbers of waders too including Wood, Green & Marsh Sandpipers, Ruff, Black-winged Stilt and many more.

Next we headed for the Ngurdoto Crater rim driving through beautiful evergreen forest to get there. Before we got to the rim, our path was blocked by a very large bus (with 60 children and teachers) that should not have ventured up that hill. It was now totally stuck in the mud and at an angle to the road too! We (and others) set out to help them of course and it became a bit of an adventure. With a combination of some digging, laying branches, Yahaya's winch and a lot of pushing, we were finally able to rescue the bus and get past it to the rim. From the rim, we had marvellous views but there were no animals at all in the crater! We did see a few birds from the rim though – Mountain Buzzard, White-eared Barbet and the very striking (when in flight) but elusive Hartlaub's Turaco. Black & White Colobus is one of the 'target' species when visiting Arusha NP and they can be hard to see, but not today. We had sightings several times totalling at least 20 different animals. Some of our party also had sightings of the shy Red Duiker.

Then it was back to Mountain Village Lodge, arriving back around 1800. There was time to wash and brush up before the evening meal, and did the wildlife sightings log. This became a daily routine in which most people participated.

Day 4

Sunday 10th November

There was time after breakfast for a bird walk around the grounds of Mountain Village which four of us went on. It was quiet at first, but then livened up and we saw quite a few birds, the highlights being a displaying African Goshawk overhead and great views of the very striking Brown-breasted Barbet. We left Mountain Village just after 0830. We stopped in Arusha town briefly for the drivers to fuel up and make final checks to the vehicles. After a 'comfort stop' at an amazing crafts and curio shop at Meserani, we continued on at about 1030 to Tarangire NP. At the Tarangire entrance gate, whilst the drivers were sorting out permits, we sat on chairs having cold drinks whilst metres away a whole host of new birds were coming to the small birdbath including firefinches, cordon-bleus and best of all a pair of Cut-throat Finches and our only Chestnut Sparrow of the whole trip.

Just after noon, we were entering the Tarangire NP proper and within minutes were seeing the first of many, many Elephants for which the park is famed. Progress to our lodge was very slow as there was so much new to see. Wildlife highlights en route included a Hamerkop dispatching a frog. We finally arrived at the magnificent Sopa Lodge at 1340 and had our lunch beside the swimming pool. There were some very cheeky birds including Von Der Decken's Hornbills and the Tanzanian endemic Ashy Starlings trying to steal food from our tables as well as some Black-faced Vervet monkeys. There were some very colourful and photogenic lizards around as well a troupe of Banded Mongooses nearby, so the photographers were kept busy.

After a siesta /time off, we set out to explore the park during the afternoon game drive and back to lodge before dusk. There was so much that was new to see but especially nice was seeing lots of Yellow-collared Lovebirds (another Tanzania endemic), Black-faced Sandgrouse and many birds of prey including Secretary Birds and Bateleur.

Day 5

Monday 11th November

Soon after leaving the lodge at 0720, we came across a very cute family of Ostriches, but sadly the three adults only had three (small bustard-sized) chicks with them. Ostrich crèches can be very large. Soon after that there was great excitement as we came across some Lions near the river. Whilst we were watching them, George discovered a magnificent Verreaux's Eagle Owl quite close to us. It gave brilliant views and was within photographic range too.

Today we were heading for the Silale Swamps and en route we had to cross the river (near the old Kuro Ranger Post). The new bridge was not open yet, so we had to use the alternative temporary crossing and were rewarded by very close sightings of the usually shy and secretive Dwarf Bittern. It was right out in the open and seemed unbothered by our close presence. Zul was very excited as this was the first of this species he had ever seen on a Naturetrek trip and his first sighting for 17 years! Probably the best bird of the whole trip...

Shortly after that we watched an African Fish Eagle mobbing an Osprey and had a nice group of 36 Common Waterbucks. We had our packed lunches at the picnic site with adjacent toilets overlooking the superb Silale Swamp which was full of elephants. More treats followed in the afternoon with loads of wetland birds at the edge of the swamps including many Long-toed Plovers, Painted Snipe, Marsh Harrier, etc. It was great fun watching a couple of close elephants enjoying the water and doing a bit of light sparring. We got incredibly close to an adult Martial Eagle plucking prey and it gave excellent photographic opportunities. Whilst looking for the pythons which sometimes are found up trees at the edge of the swamps (sadly we didn't see any), Greg found an enormous Monitor Lizard up a tree. It was incredibly well hidden and camouflaged and how Greg spotted it, no one could fathom out! We were back at the lodge at 1645 after a long day with some great sightings and experiences. The Tarangire Sopa Lodge staff got together and celebrated one of the guests birthdays in great style by trailing through all the tables singing and dancing. The whole thing was very joyful and moving and was much appreciated by all the guests.

Day 6

Tuesday 12th November

We left the Tarangire Sopa Lodge at 0735 and explored a couple of river loops before visiting an area called Serengeti Ndogo (the "Little Serengeti") where we watched a magnificent male Lion guarding his kill. He was not amused when a Hooded Vulture (the smallest vulture in Tanzania) tried to grab a bit off the buffalo. Many other vultures and the odd Tawny Eagle were waiting patiently nearby. We saw our first Grant's Gazelles of the trip and had our first African Hawk Eagle too before exiting the park at about 1030.

Carvings made out of African Blackwood (or Ebony as most people mistakenly call it) are to be found everywhere there are tourist shops. The best craftsmen are from the Makonde tribe, who come from the region in extreme SE Tanzania next to the border with Mozambique. We stopped at a shop where in the workshop at the back, there were several Makonde carvers working away. We watched, asked questions, took photos and Lisa even had a go at sanding one of the pieces (under supervision!). In the shop afterwards, peoples bargaining skills came to the fore and we left with quite a few items!

We were soon back on the tarmac and heading for Lake Manyara Hotel where we were to spend the night. We took a small diversion from wildlife viewing by calling in at Esilalei Masai School for a couple of classes and were able to see the quality of their work and interact with the kids. They even sang for us! It was very humbling to get an insight in to how things are for these children. Some had a more than two hour walk to and from school. There was currently no water at the school, so there was no lunch (normally soup) either for anyone. We learnt that it only cost about £10 for a week's supply of water for the school, but even this small amount was more than they could afford. The quality of the pupils work and their eagerness to learn was very impressive. All of our party found it a very moving and worthwhile visit and several people left monetary donations for the upkeep of the school.

We arrived at the Lake Manyara Hotel at 1315. We left our bags in the rooms, went straight to lunch and then had some time to relax and explore the grounds of the hotel before we went out again. The hotel is perched at the top of the Rift Valley escarpment, high above Lake Manyara NP. The views are spectacular and the birding can be good too, especially if there are a lot of flowering and fruiting trees or there is a passage of raptors going on.

Ann had really wanted to see a chameleon, so Zul had put the word out everywhere we went to look out for one. Here we came up trumps and a staff member brought us a beautiful Flap-necked Chameleon to admire. Ann was thrilled and the rest of us enjoyed it too. We went out again at 1535 to visit Lake Manyara NP. Zul in particular (as he'd been there many times in the past) was totally shocked to see what devastation had been wreaked by the floods of March 2013 at the entrance gate. An amazing amount of debris had been brought down and buried the toilets, paths, etc. The power of nature can be amazing. In the groundwater forest of the park, we had great views of many Blue Monkeys and excellent close views of a Grey-headed Kingfisher too. We came across a huge (at least 6-foot long), dead Black Mamba in the road – one of the most poisonous snakes in Africa. Once we were out on the grassy areas, there was an incredible gathering of Silvery-cheeked Hornbills with 35 together – a species normally seen in ones and twos in the forest proper. We watched them for a while and worked out that they were feeding on termites which must have been emerging in numbers.

The Hippo Pool, usually one of the major bird highlights at Lake Manyara NP was disappointing though, probably affected by the same flood that had devastated the park entrance gate areas. Very few birds were present and even those that were there, were difficult to see due to the growth of small shrubs. There were a couple of Hippos though and beyond the pools there were a large number of antelopes which were nice to see. We left the park at c1835 and back at our hotel about 1900.

Day 7

Wednesday 13th November

We were scheduled to depart L Manyara Hotel at 0800, but managed some birding in the grounds before we left. Although fairly quiet at times, we did manage to clock up a few species. Our departure was delayed because one of the staff had found a beautiful, thin green snake in one of the trees and we all stopped to admire it and take a few photos. It was probably a harmless Bush Snake (*Philothamnus* sp.). We left at c0815.

We stopped briefly at Karatu town to buy some sweets (for Zul!), and entered the Ngorongoro Conservation Area just after 0900. The Lodware entrance gate was quite busy and a small delay ensued. The time there was profitably spent with looking round the Information Centre. Zul also gave a briefing to everyone about the Ngorongoro Conservation Area and pointing out the various features using the 3D map. Left Lodware Gate at 0935 (and the last tarmac we would see for over a week!) and twenty minutes later, everyone was enjoying the first views of the Ngorongoro Crater from the rim. No matter how many times I have seen it (dozens over 40+ years!), it is still a magical, almost spiritual experience and always nice to share it with other people in the party. We used the telescope to identify some of the specks we could see below (including one Rhino), before carrying on the long drive to Seronera Lodge in the Serengeti NP where we were booked for lunch.

The road to the Serengeti NP is very scenic indeed, along the forested Crater rim, then spectacular views of the old extinct volcanoes before dropping down to the vast plains with their wonderful vistas. The plains were incredibly dry and mainly devoid of mammals except for a few gazelles. In another year with good rains these areas would be teeming with animals. This year, the rains had not arrived yet in this part of the park. We had a few very brief stops to identify something and to photograph the entrance board of the Serengeti NP before we arrived at Naabi Hill where we exited the Ngorongoro CA and entered the Serengeti NP. Quite a few Capped Wheatears were seen on roadside boulders.

Naabi Hill is always a popular spot to stop as there are many tame birds around and the walk up the small kopje gives fabulous views over the surrounding plains. We were there for a while (c ½ hour) and we left there at 1325, arriving at Seronera at 1420 just in time for lunch. After a siesta, we were off again at 1630. We visited the Masai Kopje area and were rewarded with brilliant views of a Serval – a very beautiful small cat. We also saw a Dark Chanting Goshawk and a Pallid Harrier too, amongst many other birds. Back to lodge just before dusk and as usual, we called the species log after dinner.

Day 8

Thursday 14th November

Several of us got up really early and went to viewpoint platform at the lodge in expectation of a stunning sunrise. Unfortunately, it failed to materialise and was also very cold up there at that time of the day! Still, it gave us time to do some wildlife watching around the lodge grounds and have an early breakfast before we left for our game drive at 0730. We finally managed to see Leopard! In fact, two individuals in adjacent trees... we had very good views, although not close enough for frame-filling shots, but through the telescopes, you could see every whisker.

What an amazing morning we had for Lions! We saw 42 in total and whilst we were watching some at a Buffalo kill, a female Buffalo and her calf appeared in to view. The lions looked well fed and there was still plenty of meat on the carcass, so we weren't sure what would happen. It proved too tempting for the lions and they brought down both mother and calf. Not without some resistance from the buffalo who were at times chasing the lions! The female Buffalo was brought down single-handedly by an adult male Lion (who says male lions don't hunt?) whilst a lioness toyed with the buffalo calf before killing that. It was at the same time a very exciting and upsetting scene to witness. Another amazing encounter with lions was later that morning when one came and sat down in the shade of our vehicle, just below Zul's open window. He could have put his arm out and touched it (but of course he didn't!). Another two sat underneath the back of our other vehicle!

We also came across a dead Elephant (probably died of natural causes) and there were nine Hyenas nearby which we also enjoyed watching. We were back at the lodge just after 1300. Set off again at 1630, this time going to an area where there had been reports of Cheetah. We found them quite easily, but they were pretty inactive and not all that close to us. Many other vehicles came and went, but we stayed put. Our patience was rewarded though as at about 1800, they started becoming quite active and gave great views. Our drivers anticipated their moves, repositioned our vehicles and we had them pass very close to us. George even predicted that one would go up on to a dead, horizontal tree and it did! It was wonderful to see all this behaviour. It had been a brilliant day for big cats. We also saw the only Marsh Mongoose of the trip.

Day 9

Friday 15th November

Some people were up very early photographing the sunrise from the viewing platform at the lodge and an added bonus was seeing ten lions from up there. We left Seronera Lodge at 0740 and went to the Retima Hippo pools taking a detour to go and check out an area where there had been some large Crocodiles recently. There weren't any large crocs there, but we did see a small one and hundreds of Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse coming down to drink at the small river.

The Retima Hippo Pool, where on previous Naturetrek trips, we've enjoyed watching up to 500+ Hippos in the river wallowing in the there, was reduced to a muddy hole with about 100 Hippos not looking particularly 'happy'. Some of us saw a few large crocs before another tourist flushed them. However, Yahaya & George took us to another section of the river where there was a lot more water and Hippos.

We continued on towards Lobo in the northern Serengeti where we were to spend a couple of days. We took a slight detour to go and see a group of nine lions (all males) and en route to Lobo, we had our first Black-backed Jackals of the trip. We had good views of a Steinbok and had an Ostrich crèche with 28 chicks (two different sizes). We arrived at the wonderful Lobo Lodge (built on / in a kopje) just about at mid-day. The reception staff and manager knew Zul well, so didn't even bother trying to get us all to fill in forms! We had lunch and then enjoyed the views from the lodge / had a siesta before setting off again at 1600. We saw more lions! We saw several Klipspringer, always one of the highlights of the Lobo area. Back at the lodge, everyone went to the Sunset Viewpoint, but unfortunately, the hoped for colours did not materialise.

Day 10

Saturday 16th November

Most of us missed the commotion at c0500 with the Vervets getting very vocal. A Leopard had entered the quadrangle (where our vehicles park up, and which is visible from the front door of all the rooms) and quietly made it's way out at the other end. Several staff, but none of us saw it. Ann and Kev were woken up and came out to investigate too. We left lodge at 0745 and drove to Bologonja Springs. Just outside the lodge grounds, we had a Lion with four cubs. We had another Lion with kill and 100+ vultures (African White-backed, Ruppell's and Hooded). Two Cheetahs resting under a Balanites tree were a nice bonus and being in this part of the park, we had them to ourselves. The Bologonja Springs area was busy with park staff and workers because of some construction going on as well as an anti-poaching operation. We had our packed lunches there. We had some time to explore the riverine forest nearby, the birding highlight being a Ross's Turaco, a rarely seen species. We left Bologonja Springs at 1345 and were back at the lodge at 1545.

Day 11

Sunday 17th November

The day started well with 10 Lions from the balcony at the lodge! We had really enjoyed staying at Lobo Lodge and exploring the areas nearby. We had seen plenty of wildlife and very few other people. We said our goodbyes to the staff and left Lobo at 0745. We had a long day's drive ahead of us, punctuated by the inevitable wildlife sightings and the odd break of course. Not far from Lobo Lodge, we had nine more Lions and some more later on too. It had been an amazing safari for lion sightings. We had a much longer stop at the Seronera Visitor Centre (just over an hour) where we enjoyed the tame birds and the tame Grass Mice too. Most people joined a guide, Gerard for a walk through the very informative Interpretative Trail. We left the visitor centre just after 1100 and got to Naabi Hill about an hour later, having stopped for two more lion groups. Had our packed lunches at Naabi Hill and left there at 1310.

We visited a Masai settlement next. They sang and danced for us (Lisa joined in on a dance!), took us to see inside their huts and some people even went to the children's school. It was all very colourful and fascinating. We were able to photograph them to our heart's content.

Our next stop was at Oldupai Gorge, the 'Cradle of Mankind' where a very informative guide told us very clearly about the hominid history of the area dating back to nearly two million years before the present and also told us about the various archaeologists who had worked there and made the place famous. There is a very good museum with replicas of many of the fossils found and we all found this fascinating too. Wildlife was not neglected during our stop here and we enjoyed seeing many Vitelline Masked Weavers in breeding plumages.

We left Oldupai at 1615 and were at our base for the next three nights, the Ngorongoro Wildlife Lodge at c1730. The lodge is set in a spectacular location right on the rim of the Ngorongoro Crater with fabulous views, including from every bedroom. Within a short time, we were watching two Rhinos from the balcony. Although it had been a long drive today, it didn't seem too bad as were in protected areas all the time with great scenery, had some good stops and there were some great wildlife sightings.

Day 12

Monday 18th November

There was some time before breakfast to enjoy the sunrise over the crater. We left Ngorongoro Wildlife Lodge at about 0740, drove round the rim to the descent road, stopped at the entry post there to show our permits and then descended the 2000 feet to the crater floor. We had great views of Mourning (Schalow's) Wheatear towards the bottom of the crater descent road. As we got to the crater floor, George spotted a smallish cat. We put up our binoculars and were stunned to see it was a CARACAL, a rarely seen animal! We had great views for many minutes. At one point, it started a stalk and then did a lightning pounce in to a bush and came out with a rodent. It slowly walked off until it was out of sight. We were all elated, especially Greg for whom this had been a 'target' animal and one that he didn't think he would see.

It was wonderful to finally be inside the crater, normally a very beautiful and special place. Unfortunately, presumably because of the very dry weather, much of the wildlife had retreated to the sides of the crater, where there are no roads. The main part of the crater roads circuit was fairly quiet, although inevitably there was always something of interest to look at. Our first Golden (or Common) Jackal was nice. Another definite highlight was a buffalo kill right by the road near the Munge River. We spent ages there, at first watching a lioness, and then a Black-backed Jackal, which at first nervously approaching the kill after the lioness had left and then we watched it starting to feed. We had our packed lunches at the very scenic Ngoitokitok Springs and relaxed there for a while before starting back at 1350. The usual ascent road up to our lodge was closed for renovations and we had to take a long detour via the Sopa ascent road. We got back to our Ngorongoro Wildlife Lodge at about 1600. Some of us went birding in the grounds and amongst other birds discovered a female Brown-backed Woodpecker feeding young! A very scarce bird, it was the first time Zul had seen one.

Day 13

Tuesday 19th November

We left the lodge very early today at 0600, well before anyone else. Took our packed breakfasts with us and we were at the descent gate c0630 and on the crater floor by 0700. It felt great to be out and about so early. We stopped to look at the main lake, L Magadi but this was very low with water just at one end. The distance to the waterbird concentration was too far to identify everything, but a few Pied Avocets stood out. After a thorough search with the telescope of suitable areas, Zul found a Chestnut-banded Plover, one of the specialities of the area, but it proved impossible to point it out to the others as it was quite active and was at the limits of clear viewing (due to heat haze).

We visited the Hippo Pools next. There was plenty of wildlife to look at. In amongst all the African ducks, there were a number of Northern Shovelers. Best birds were a pair of Quailfinches which gave excellent views – a rarely seen species. Best mammal was a pair of the nocturnal White-tailed Mongoose which Greg was the first to spot. Why they were out and about and quite active at that time of the day was unclear! Steve and Kevin saw a distant mammal very briefly that they thought was almost certainly a Porcupine, but sadly it wasn't seen again.

We stopped for our packed breakfast at 0925 at the picnic site (with toilets) in the Lerai Forest (dominated by the Yellow-barked Acacias). After a good break, we visited an area known as the "Round Table" which gave excellent views of that part of the crater and the swamps that were full of Buffalo. After that, we slowly wound our way back to the lodge via the Sopa ascent, getting to the lodge at c1300.

Most, but not all, of us set off again at 1500 for our walk with an armed escort and we went to the HQ to pick him / her up. Very unusually, there was no one available despite several phone & radio calls. To cut a long story short, we decided to give up on an escorted walk and instead went and walked on our own around the Simba public campsite, hoping to find a few new birds. The walk was nice, and new for the trip was Paradise Whydah and we all had good views. Back early to the lodge, there was time for some birding in the grounds. Zul discovered that there was a built-in birdbath in to the boundary wall of the lodge area and that the guy at the gate (Andrew) was quite interested in birds too. Zul sat a while and had great views of Cape Robin-chat, White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher, Tropical Boubou, Striped See-eater and Olive Thrush. At the Brown-backed Woodpecker's nest, both male and female were present.

Day 14

Wednesday 20th November

The hoped-for glorious sunrise did not materialise...and our time at in the Ngorongoro area had sadly come to an end. There was however some time for birding in the grounds before we left the lodge just after 0800. Similar species to yesterday were seen, but new was a pair of Red-fronted Parrots, alerted to us by the guy sweeping the drive! We stopped very briefly to have a last view of the crater from the viewpoint and got to the Ngorongoro CA gate at 0835. En route to the gate, we saw where Elephants had been digging for minerals in the cliffs at the side of the road. We were at the gate for about an hour whilst the drivers completed exit formalities. A baboon got in to Yahaya's vehicle and ran off with a carrier bag full of children's books! Several drivers gave chase and managed to retrieve everything... Even worse, a baboon got in to George's vehicle and stole Zul's sweets! The baboon won and went off with a handbag but fortunately he dropped it soon afterwards and Lisa was able to hop out and retrieve it. They have become so bold in recent years.

After a short drive on the tarmac, through the busy town of Karatu, we arrived at the wonderful Gibb's Farm. Everyone was instantly impressed by the ambience of the place. Gibb's is an old coffee plantation, with wonderful flower and vegetable gardens, great views and a superb place for just 'chilling out'. It is right next to the Ngorongoro Highland Forest Reserve and so has some very good birding too. There was also a well stocked bird table which was frequented by many birds. We spent about three and a half hours here, with some people just relaxing, whilst others taking a guided tour of the gardens, looking at the fantastic cottages, farm animals or just exploring the place on their own. No one took the strenuous option to walk through the forest to the waterfall/ Elephant Cave walk in the forest reserve.

The special bird of Gibb's Farm, the White-tailed Blue Flycatcher proved quite elusive and was not to be found in the usual haunts. But Kev found one whilst watching birds at the bird table, and was able to point it out to all. Other birds we saw at Gibb's included Arrow-marked Babbler, African Grey Woodpecker, great views of Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater and a flock of European Bee-eaters flew over calling. We enjoyed a lecture / discussion given by George (about categories of Protected Areas in Tanzania) before settling down on a nice table outside for one of their famed buffet lunches. We left Gibb's Farm at 1340.

We stopped for about half an hour at a very large 'tourist shop' (African Galleria) en route to Lake Manyara to buy some souvenirs. There was a bewildering array of crafts and other items to look at. We also stopped at the village of Mto wa Mbu to buy some bananas before heading to Arusha. We got to the Rangers Safaris HQ in Arusha at 1715. People took advantage of the facilities and changed in to their travel clothes. We said our sad farewells to Yahaya and George, as we were going to the airport in a Transfer Bus (with driver Nurdin). We got to Kilimanjaro International Airport by 1830 in good time for the 2150 flight to Amsterdam. As we headed for the airport, the top part of Mount Kilimanjaro showed briefly and we stopped to take some photos.

It had been a great safari and everyone would have their own wildlife highlights. For me (Zul), it has to be the Caracal, Dwarf Bittern and Brown-head Woodpecker.

Day 15

Thursday 21st November

Arrival back to Amsterdam in early morning and then later, flights to the UK.

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Species Lists

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; H = Heard Only)

	Common name	Scientific name	November											
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>		15	15	10	12	5	40		20	12	30	
2	Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	9	20	30	20	30	20	30	20	20	30	25	
3	Coqui Francolin	<i>Peliperdix coqui</i>					3	8	2	1				
4	Crested Francolin	<i>Dendroperdix sephaena</i>		6	10	4		1						
5	Hildebrandt's Francolin	<i>Pternistis hildebrandti</i>			2	3								
6	Yellow-necked Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis leucoscepus</i>		8	10	6								
7	Grey-breasted Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis rufopictus</i>					3		8		6			
8	Red-necked Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis afer</i>		6	6	6								
9	White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>			12									
10	Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>			2									
11	Knob-billed Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>			10									
12	Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>		6	20	2	3	6	2	2	4	8	10	
13	Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>	50										20	
14	Yellow-billed Duck	<i>Anas undulata</i>										1		
15	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>											12	
16	Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>			50			10					30	
17	Hottentot Teal	<i>Anas hottentota</i>			10							8	12	
18	Southern Pochard	<i>Netta erythrophthalma</i>	200		12									
19	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	100		50							1		
20	Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	200+			✓	✓					10+	20+	
21	Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoeniconaias minor</i>	100K+			✓	✓					100+	200+	
22	Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>						1						
23	African Openbill	<i>Anastomus lamelligerus</i>			100+									
24	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>							1					
25	Saddle-billed Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis</i>										7		
26	Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumenifer</i>	3			16	2	30	20	10	20	2	10	4
27	African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	4		10		1					8	15	

	Common name	Scientific name	November											
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
28	Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>	10	1	4	2								
29	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>			200	30						1		
30	African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>			3							2	1	
31	Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>			12									
32	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	25		30	50	40				20	1	50	
33	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>		1*	1			1	1			2	2	
34	Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>	1				5	10		1		4	10	
35	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>						1*				1		
36	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>			1									
37	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>		2		1			1				1	
38	Pink-backed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i>					200+							
39	Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>										4	1	
40	Secretarybird	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>		4			6	6	6	3	2	2	1	
41	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>			1									
42	European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>				1								
43	Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>					2	3			1			
44	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>		2			1			2		16	20	2
45	African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>			1	1	1	1	2	1			1	
46	Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>				2				11				
47	White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>	4	10	10	40	20	30	50	70		2	50	
48	Rüppell's Vulture	<i>Gyps rueppellii</i>		4	4			25		50		1	10	
49	White-headed Vulture	<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>					2*							
50	Lappet-faced Vulture	<i>Torgos tracheliotos</i>					1	1	1	4				
51	Black-chested Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus pectoralis</i>				1								
52	Brown Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>			2	1	1							
53	Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>		3	15	2	2	1	4	2	5	2	2	
54	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>			1								1	
55	Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>					2m						1m	
56	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>			1		2	1	1		1		1m	
57	African Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>					1							
58	Dark Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax metabates</i>					2							
59	Eastern Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax poliopterus</i>									1			

	Common name	Scientific name	November												
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
60	Gabar Goshawk	<i>Micronisus gabar</i>								1*					
61	African Goshawk	<i>Accipiter tachiro</i>		1											
62	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>				2							1	1	
63	Mountain Buzzard	<i>Buteo oreophilus</i>	1												
64	Augur Buzzard	<i>Buteo augur</i>	4	2		1	1				2	2	2		
65	Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>	1	3	4	6	6	4	4	4	3	5	2		
66	Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>					1								
67	Verreaux's Eagle	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>								3					
68	African Hawk-Eagle	<i>Aquila spilogaster</i>				1									
69	Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus wahlbergi</i>								1					
70	Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>			3			1	1						
71	Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>	1												
72	Pygmy Falcon	<i>Polihierax semitorquatus</i>				2									
73	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>									1				
74	Greater Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicoloides</i>									1				
75	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>										2			
76	Kori Bustard	<i>Ardeotis kori</i>				1	3	1	2		2	10	20		
77	White-bellied Bustard	<i>Eupodotis senegalensis</i>		3		7	2	1							
78	Black-bellied Bustard	<i>Lissotis melanogaster</i>					2					2	2		
79	Black Crake	<i>Amauornis flavirostra</i>					2	1	3					6	
80	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>			2									2	
81	Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>	2		30										
82	Grey Crowned Crane	<i>Balearica regulorum</i>										20	40		
83	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	20		30		1	2			4				
84	Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>												8	
85	Long-toed Lapwing	<i>Vanellus crassirostris</i>			50									6	
86	Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>	10	2	20	50	20	10	1		10	266	50		
87	Spur-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus spinosus</i>			10	2									
88	Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>		4	1	6	10				10		3		
89	African Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>								2*					
90	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	1		1	20									
91	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>				2								2	

	Common name	Scientific name	November											
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
92	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>				1	1	20				2		
93	Chestnut-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>											1	
94	Greater Painted Snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis</i>			5									
95	African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>			50							2		
96	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	1	1		1		4			1		1	
97	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>			1	1								
98	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>				2	1	1			1	2		
99	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	6	2	40	10	1	12	2				1	
100	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	4					1			1			
101	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	10			20	2	20	2		2		20	
102	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	100	2	12	50	1	10			4	2	20	
103	Double-banded Courser	<i>Rhinoptilus africanus</i>			1	1	1	1						
104	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>			50									
105	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>			20									
106	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>			2									
107	Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles exustus</i>				4		4	200+					
108	Yellow-throated Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles gutturalis</i>					1	20						
109	Black-faced Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles decoratus</i>		2										
110	Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>		1	1	1	4		2	1	2	6	4	3
111	Dusky Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia lugens</i>									1	4		
112	Mourning Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>		1							2	1*		
113	Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	2							1	1			
114	Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>		20	25	20	4	20	20	10			2	
115	Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>			10					1				
116	Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>			1									
117	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>		6										
118	African Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calvus</i>		1										
119	Yellow-collared Lovebird	<i>Agapornis personatus</i>		20	25	20								
120	Red-fronted Parrot	<i>Poicephalus gulielmi</i>												2
121	Meyer's Parrot	<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i>			6		2							
122	Red-bellied Parrot	<i>Poicephalus rufiventris</i>			5	1								
123	Schalow's Turaco	<i>Tauraco schalowi</i>										6	1	1

	Common name	Scientific name	November											
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
124	Hartlaub's Turaco	<i>Tauraco hartlaubi</i>	3											
125	Bare-faced Go-away-Bird	<i>Corythaixoides personatus</i>		2	3	2		1	2	3				
126	White-bellied Go-away-Bird	<i>Corythaixoides leucogaster</i>		4	5	2								
127	Senegal Coucal (White-browed)	<i>Centropus senegalensis</i>		1*					2	2				
128	Black Coucal	<i>Centropus grillii</i>									1			
129	Klaas's Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>	1						1	1				
130	Red-chested Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>		H	1									1
131	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	1			1								
132	Verreaux's Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo lacteus</i>			4				3					
133	African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>			10	20	15							
134	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>							1		10	20		
135	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>		50	100	50	20	30	40	60	50		50	
136	Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>	2	12			1			4	6	6	6	4
137	Blue-naped Mousebird	<i>Urocolius macrourus</i>							1					
138	Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudatus</i>		20	24	10	6	10	6	4	2	1	2	
139	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>							6					
140	Grey-headed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon leucocephala</i>		1	2	1			2					
141	Striped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>			2			1						
142	Woodland Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon senegalensis</i>			3*									
143	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>			1									
144	Little Bee-Eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>	4	6		2		4	6	4	6	6	2	
145	Cinnamon-chested Bee-Eater	<i>Merops oreobates</i>	4								2	2	2	3
146	White-fronted Bee-Eater	<i>Merops bullockoides</i>	10											
147	Blue-cheeked Bee-Eater	<i>Merops persicus</i>			20									
148	European Bee-Eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>			1					H				12
149	African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>	H		1						H			
150	Green Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>			2			1	1					
151	Crowned Hornbill	<i>Tockus alboterminatus</i>	1			1								
152	African Grey Hornbill	<i>Tockus nasutus</i>		2	4	6			2					
153	Northern Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus erythrorhynchus</i>		2	6									
154	Von Der Decken's Hornbill	<i>Tockus deckeni</i>		6	10	6				4				
155	Silvery-cheeked Hornbill	<i>Bycanistes brevis</i>	6			35								

	Common name	Scientific name	November											
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
156	Southern Ground Hornbill	<i>Bucorvus leadbeateri</i>			9		1		2	3				
157	White-eared Barbet	<i>Stactolaema leucotis</i>	1											
158	Red-fronted Barbet	<i>Tricholaema diademata</i>									1			
159	Spot-flanked Barbet	<i>Tricholaema lacrymosa</i>							1	1				
160	Brown-breasted Barbet	<i>Lybius melanopterus</i>		2										
161	Red-and-yellow Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus erythrocephalus</i>		2	3						4			
162	Usambiro Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus darnaudii usambiro</i>			4				2		6			
163	Greater Honeyguide	<i>Indicator indicator</i>			H									
164	Nubian Woodpecker	<i>Campethera nubica</i>		1*										
165	Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>							2					
166	Bearded Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos namaquus</i>			1		1							
167	African Grey Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos goertae</i>			2			1		1*				1
168	Brown-backed Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos obsoletus</i>										F	✓r	
169	Chinspot Batis	<i>Batis molitor</i>							2					
170	Brown-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>				1								
171	Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubla</i>				1	1							
172	Slate-colored Boubou	<i>Laniarius funebris</i>			5		1	2	2		2			
173	Tropical Boubou	<i>Laniarius major</i>	2								1	2	1	2
174	Magpie Shrike	<i>Urolestes melanoleucus</i>		20	20	30			10	10	6			
175	Northern White-crowned Shrike	<i>Eurocephalus ruppelli</i>		10	15	20		6	10	10	10			
176	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>					2					2	1	
177	Grey-backed Fiscal	<i>Lanius excubitoroides</i>					1	6	12	12	6			
178	Long-tailed Fiscal	<i>Lanius cabanisi</i>		12	20	10								
179	Southern Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>	6									2	3	
180	Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus larvatus</i>			1	1	1		H	1				
181	Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	1	6	6		1							
182	African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>	1						4	1				2
183	Cape Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>					2				5			
184	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>		20		6	4							8
185	White-necked Raven	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>	2	2										1
186	White-tailed Blue Flycatcher	<i>Elminia albicauda</i>												1
187	Rufous-naped Lark	<i>Mirafraga africana</i>	1					2			4	4	3	

	Common name	Scientific name	November											
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
188	Flappet Lark	<i>Mirafr a rufocinnamomea</i>									2			
189	Red-capped Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>										100		10
190	Fischer's Sparrow-Lark	<i>Eremopterix leucopareia</i>		50		100	200	100	50			50	20	30
191	Common Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus layardi</i>	12	10		1	3		6	10	12	6	10	
192	Black Saw-Wing	<i>Psalidoprocne pristopectera</i>	6				6					1	4	
193	Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	2			100	6							
194	Banded Martin	<i>Riparia cincta</i>						2						1
195	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	1			100	20	10	20	50		20	20	
196	Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>						2		2	2			1
197	Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>					5	4	20					2
198	Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>		2				6	6			2		
199	Mosque Swallow	<i>Cecropis senegalensis</i>				2								
200	Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>	12					6	15					
201	Red-faced Crombec	<i>Sylvietta whytii</i>								2				
202	Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>						2						
203	Trilling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola woosnami</i>	3											
204	Hunter's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola hunteri</i>					2				4	4	2	
205	Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>	H	1	2		1	1						
206	Pectoral-patch Cisticola	<i>Cisticola brunnescens</i>										10		
207	Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>		2										
208	Bar-throated Apalis	<i>Apalis thoracica</i>										2	1	
209	Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flavida</i>							2	1				
210	Brown-headed Apalis	<i>Apalis alticola</i>										1		
211	Grey-capped Warbler	<i>Eminia lepida</i>											1	
212	Green-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brachyura</i>						1			1			
213	Black-lored Babbler	<i>Turdoides sharpei</i>					2	4			4			
214	Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>												4
215	Northern Pied Babbler	<i>Turdoides hypoleuca</i>			6	2								
216	Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>										2		
217	Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>								1				
218	Abyssinian White-Eye	<i>Zosterops abyssinicus</i>	4											
219	African Yellow White-Eye	<i>Zosterops senegalensis</i>		1*						8				

	Common name	Scientific name	November											
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
220	Montane White-Eye	<i>Zosterops poliogastrus</i>	4									2	2	1
221	Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>			20									
222	Greater Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>		10					4	6				
223	Rüppell's Starling	<i>Lamprotornis purpuroptera</i>						15	20	6	4			
224	Superb Starling	<i>Lamprotornis superbus</i>		50	30	25	30	20	20	6	30	25	20	
225	Hildebrandt's Starling	<i>Lamprotornis hildebrandti</i>					2	3	1	1	2			
226	Ashy Starling	<i>Lamprotornis unicolor</i>		50	50	30								
227	Violet-backed Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>					M							
228	Red-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>	2	10		2	2	2			2	6	2	12
229	Yellow-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus africanus</i>				4			6	2			✓	
230	Red-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>	10		6	4		20	10				✓	
231	Cape Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha caffra</i>					1					1	2	1
232	Rüppell's Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha semirufa</i>		1										
233	White-browed Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha heuglini</i>										5		2
234	Spotted Palm Thrush	<i>Cichladusa guttata</i>			2									
235	White-browed Scrub Robin	<i>Erythropygia leucophrys</i>							1					
236	African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>	1				2					1	5	
237	Capped Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pileata</i>					20							
238	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>								2		6	2	
239	Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>			2					3	1	2		
240	Mourning Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe lugens</i>										2	4	
241	Anteater Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla aethiops</i>					1				1	4	8	
242	Sooty Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla nigra</i>								4	1			
243	Mocking Cliff Chat	<i>Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris</i>							2					
244	White-eyed Slaty Flycatcher	<i>Dioptornis fischeri</i>										6	4	4
245	African Grey Flycatcher	<i>Bradornis microrhynchus</i>					1							
246	Silverbird	<i>Empidonis semipartitus</i>		1	2		2							
247	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>			1			1		1		1		
248	African Dusky Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa adusta</i>										2		
249	Collared Sunbird	<i>Hedycipna collaris</i>	4	6			5					1		
250	Amethyst Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra amethystina</i>	1									1		
251	Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>							3				1	

	Common name	Scientific name	November											
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
252	Tacazze Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia tacazze</i>										1*		
253	Bronzy Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia kilimensis</i>												M
254	Golden-winged Sunbird	<i>Drepanorhynchus reichenowi</i>										3	2	
255	Eastern Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris mediocris</i>									1	12	10	2
256	Beautiful Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris pulchellus</i>			3									
257	Marico Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris mariquensis</i>							1					
258	Variable Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris venustus</i>		1					4	2				2
259	Rufous-tailed Weaver	<i>Histurgops ruficauda</i>		12			20				10	40		
260	Grey-capped Social Weaver	<i>Pseudonigrita arnaudi</i>						10	4					
261	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		2			1	6		2			2	
262	Kenya Sparrow	<i>Passer rufocinctus</i>									12			
263	Northern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer griseus</i>		20		2							1	
264	Chestnut Sparrow	<i>Passer eminibey</i>		1										
265	Red-billed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Bubalornis niger</i>		50				50	20		20			
266	Speckle-fronted Weaver	<i>Sporopipes frontalis</i>								2	6			
267	Baglafaecht Weaver	<i>Ploceus baglafaecht</i>	2	2								4	6	6
268	Black-necked Weaver	<i>Ploceus nigricollis</i>									1*			
269	Vitelline Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus vitellinus</i>									10			
270	Speke's Weaver	<i>Ploceus spekei</i>										10		
271	Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>		1		20								
272	Fan-tailed Widowbird	<i>Euplectes axillaris</i>									2	10	4	
273	Red-collared Widowbird	<i>Euplectes ardens</i>									12			
274	Cut-throat Finch	<i>Amadina fasciata</i>		2										
275	Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>	2	6		6								
276	African Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta rubricata</i>										1*	2	1
277	Red-cheeked Cordon-Bleu	<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>		10	6	3			10					
278	Blue-capped Cordon-Bleu	<i>Uraeginthus cyanocephalus</i>		10							1			
279	Purple Grenadier	<i>Uraeginthus ianthinogaster</i>							1		2			
280	Yellow-bellied Waxbill	<i>Coccyzygia quartinia</i>												2
281	Bronze Mannikin	<i>Lonchura cucullata</i>					12							
282	Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>		1										
283	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	1			2						30	20	

	Common name	Scientific name	November											
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
284	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	2											
285	African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>		2			5	2			1			
286	Yellow-throated Longclaw	<i>Macronyx croceus</i>						3*						
287	African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>								2			2	
288	Plain-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus leucophrys</i>						1		1				
289	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>											2	
290	Southern Citril	<i>Crithagra hyposticta</i>										6		
291	White-bellied Canary	<i>Crithagra dorsostriata</i>						15						
292	Streaky Seedeater	<i>Crithagra striolata</i>										10	8	4
293	Pale Flycatcher	<i>Bradornis pallidus</i>		2						2				
294	Olive Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra olivacea</i>		1										
295	Rufous-backed Mannikin	<i>Lonchura nigriceps</i>	1											
296	Yellow-rumped Seed-eater	<i>Serinus xanthopygius</i>	1			2								
297	Green-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia melba</i>		1	2									
298	Dwarf Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus sturmii</i>			1									
299	Freckled Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus tristigma</i>			H				H	1				
300	African Silverbill	<i>Lonchura cantans</i>				10								
301	White-headed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Dinemellia dinemelli</i>			20	20		2	30	20				
302	Ross's Turaco	<i>Musophaga rossae</i>								1				
303	Square-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus fossii</i>								1*				
304	Green-capped Eremomela	<i>Eremomela scotops</i>								1				
305	Paradise Whydah	<i>Vidua paradisaea</i>								6			10	
306	African Darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>										1		
307	Montane Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus poliocephalus</i>										H		
308	Olive Thrush	<i>Turdus olivaceus</i>										1		
309	Quailfinch	<i>Ortygospiza fuscocrissa</i>												✓r
310	Common Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>										1	1	
311	Green-headed Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra verticalis</i>												M

Mammals

1

1	Warthog	<i>Phacochoerus aethiopicus</i>	30	12	30	30	20	20	50	30	25	40	40	
2	Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>			5	3	10	200	300		26	40	60	

	Common name	Scientific name	November											
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
3	Masai Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	20	12	10	8	8	10	60	30	30	3		
4	Kirk's Dik-Dik	<i>Rhynchotragus kirkii</i>		2	30	2	2	2	2	6	4	2		
5	Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>							6	3	2			
6	Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>	10		1						1	4		
7	Eland	<i>Taurotragus derbianus</i>			20				6	40	30		2	
8	Common Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>	20	20	52	20								
9	Defassa Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus defassa</i>					1		4	5				
10	Bohor Reedbuck	<i>Redunca redunca</i>		1	5	5	4	2	1	2				
11	Topi	<i>Damaliscus korrigum</i>						1	50	50	30	2	1	
12	Coke's Hartebeeste	<i>Alcelaphus buselaphus cokii</i>					20	30	40	60	50	4	8	
13	Blue Wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>		200	300	300	1K+	100	2K+	500	300	1k+	✓	
14	Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>		150	200	100	30	20	200	250	150			
15	Grant's Gazelle	<i>Gazella granti</i>				14	200	10	100	100	20	20	3	
16	Thomson's Gazelle	<i>Gazella thomsoni</i>				100	2K+	1K+	1K+	500	500	100	100	
17	Red Duiker	<i>Cephalophus natalensis</i>	2		1									
18	Steinbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>		1*		1*			1	2	1			
19	African Buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>	100	20	40	200		1K+	1K+	300	200	100	1K+	
20	Burchell's Zebra	<i>Equus burchelli</i>	30	100	100	100	500	400	500	500	500	1K+	✓	
21	Black Rhinoceros	<i>Diceros bicornis</i>					1				2	5	7	
22	Yellow-spotted Rock Hyrax	<i>Heterohyrax brucei</i>		20	50	30	50	40	100	60	50			
23	African Elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>		100	500	50	30	50	20	4	20	20	10	
24	Ochre Bush Squirrel	<i>Paraxerus ochraceus</i>	1	10	3	4								
25	African Hare	<i>Lepus habessinicus</i>					1*	1	1					
26	African Grass Rat	<i>Arvicanthis niloticus</i>					6				12		1	
27	Black-backed Jackal	<i>Canis mesomelas</i>							6	7	3	2	7	
28	Golden (Common) Jackal	<i>Canis aureus</i>										2	3	
29	Slender Mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguineus</i>	1*				1	1	1	1			1	
30	Banded Mongoose	<i>Mungos mungo</i>		30	30	20	20		30	20	20			
31	Eastern Dwarf Mongoose	<i>Helogale parvula</i>		20	12			15		1				
32	Spotted Hyaena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>					10	14	4		6	9	50	
33	Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>		4	4	12	17	42	25	9	34	9	6	
34	Leopard	<i>Panthera pardus</i>						2						

	Common name	Scientific name	November											
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
35	Cheetah	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>						2		2				
36	Serval	<i>Felis serval</i>					1							
37	Olive Baboon	<i>Papio cynocephalus</i>	200	2	30	200	20	50	100	50	30	30	20	
38	Blue Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus mitis</i>	25	1		20								
39	Vervet Monkey	<i>Cercopithecus aethiops</i>		10	20	40		8	25	30	10	12	1	
40	Eastern Black & White Colobus	<i>Colobus guereza</i>	20											
41	Yellow-winged Bat	<i>Lavia frons</i>					1*							
42	Marsh Mongoose	<i>Atilax paludinosus</i>						1						
43	Caracal	<i>Caracal caracal</i>										1		
44	Bushpig	<i>Potamochoerus larvatus</i>										1		
45	White-tailed Mongoose	<i>Ichneumia albicauda</i>											2	
46	Porcupine	<i>Hystrix cristata</i>											?	
47	Bat sp.			12										
48	Shrew sp.						1							

Reptiles & Amphibians

1	Nile Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>						5	11		1			
2	Flap-necked Chameleon	<i>Chamaeleo dilepis</i>				1								
3	Red-headed Rock Agama	<i>Agama agama</i>		6		2		7	20	20	30			
4	Nile Monitor	<i>Varanus niloticus</i>			1			1	2		2			
5	Black Mamba (dead)	<i>Dendroaspis polylepis</i>				1								
6	Snake sp. (Arusha NP)		1											
7	Lizard sp. (Tarangire NP)			4										
8	Snake (prob Philothamnus sp.)						1							
9	Terrapin sp.		1											
10	Snail sp. (Giant!)		1											
11	Scorpion sp.				1									
12	Skink sp.												4+	