

Madagascar's Lemurs

Naturetrek Tour Report

6 - 19 October 2013



Parson's Chameleon



Eastern Grey Bamboo Lemur



Verreaux's Sifaka



Running Coua

Report compiled by Tony Williams
Images courtesy of Julie Chadbone



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Day 1

Saturday 5th October

Many of us met up in Heathrow for our afternoon Air France flight to Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport; the rest of the group had made their own way to Paris. Our hotel there, the Ibis hotel, is within the airport complex and only a short and easy distance from the terminal, so we were at the hotel in plenty of time to find our rooms, get sorted and have a meal together. It was decided that we meet the next morning in the hotel lobby at 07h15.

Day 2

Sunday 6th October

With all 6 members of the group keen to go we headed out of the hotel ahead of schedule at 07h10, we walked the short distance back to the new and lavish terminal 2E where we found the appropriate Air France check-in desks. Here, we were soon joined by another couple on the trip. Our 10h45 flight left half an hour late, thus we arrived later than scheduled at Antananarivo (popularly called Tana) airport with the usual hustle for obtaining a visa and passport control. Once through we had no luggage problems and our local guide for the trip, Desi, was waiting for us with driver and bus. Our hotel for the night, the Orchid hotel, is only a short drive from the airport so that we were all soon in our rooms for the night.

Day 3

Monday 7th October

We had a good breakfast at 08h30 and left the hotel at just after 09h00, with Madagascar Fody (our first Madagascar endemic) seen from the hotel restaurant veranda. We drove to the Lemur farm on the other side of Antananarivo. A quick stop at a large supermarket gave some of the party a chance to get their binoculars out and look at a few birds around the car park; these included Common Myna and Madagascar Wagtail, whilst the leader bought some bottled water. We arrived at the Lemurs' park some 25 km west of the centre of Antananarivo. The 5 ha site recuperates abandoned lemurs that are cared for and at liberty within the park. The one-and-a-half hour visit with a local guide allowed us to see and photograph several lemur species and to see a few bird and reptile species. The lemurs can't count towards the trip list as they were brought there and most are out of their natural range but it does provide a good introduction to the lemurs and some good photo opportunities. Lunch was at the Lemurs' park where a few tried the local dish of rice, local spinach and meat. We also spotted a fine Spiny-tailed iguanid on the side of the terrace and passing sunbirds and a Madagascar Manikin.

After lunch we were back on the bus for an afternoons drive along the N7 road as far as Antsirabe, which would be our final destination that day. We arrived just before dark for our overnight stay at the Camélia hotel, near the centre of the town; even here we could hear Madagascar Nightjar singing, probably from a large garden across the road.

Day 4

Tuesday 8th October

We had breakfast at the Camélia hotel at 08h00 and left shortly after 08h30 for a day's drive to Ranomafana. The whole day was spent travelling with various stops along the way. We visited the Wood carving shop in Ambositra with an opportunity for looking at their workshop and buying some nice souvenirs. We picnicked on the side of the road next to some blue water-lily strewn ponds, where we saw a few birds including our first Red-billed Teal of the trip.

During the afternoon we stopped in Ambohimahasoia to admire the egret colony there, in tall trees in the grounds of the town hall. The most common species was Dimorphic Egret but there were also nesting Cattle Egret, Black-crowned Night Heron and a single Black Egret. We then turned off the N7 main road onto the N25 towards Ranomafana and it wasn't long before a Red-bellied Lemur ran across the road in front of our bus; our first really wild lemur was obliging enough to then sit in a roadside tree allowing us all to get out of the bus and have fine views. We arrived at the hotel well before 6 which gave us plenty of time to find our rooms, have a little relax, do the species log and have our evening meal. Overnight was at the comfortable Centrest hotel, our home for the next three nights.

Day 5

Wednesday 9th October

A short pre-breakfast bird walk at 05h30 produced golden-orb spider, Green-backed heron and a quick fly-by by a France's Sparrowhawk.

We left the hotel at about 06h30, after breakfast. Our driver, Desi and local guides Jean-Chris and Berthin and local lemur tracker, Zo, (another local tracker Bako joined the group a little later) were waiting for us at the bus so that we set off on time for the fifteen minute drive to the main Ranomafana entrance. Whilst waiting for our guides to register at the park office we looked at the birds around the car park (we had good views of White-eyes and Mascarene Martins and short view of a Chabert's Vanga and distant but clear views of a couple of Madagascar Cuckoo-rollers calling and displaying over the nearby forest). We were now in pristine rainforest and expectations were high; we weren't disappointed. The morning walk proved to be very interesting with three species of lemur well seen: Red-bellied again, Golden Bamboo very close and the extremely rare Greater Bamboo Lemur. This last species is only found in this part of Madagascar. We also saw various other species thanks to the local guides, the best maybe the Pitta-like Ground-roller, well seen by all.

Back at the hotel just before midday, we had our lunch at 12h30 and then a rest until 15h30. On the way to our next destination we passed the car carrying the now to be missing group member who had managed to get a new passport, and re-book flights – with Naturetrek's help – and make his way to Ranomafana. We travelled up to the old Ranomafana road where the bus stopped. We got out to see the incredibly bizarre Giraffe-necked Weevils next to the bus and then walked along the road looking for birds.

Unfortunately the mixed flock of forest birds at our turnaround point was only seen by a few people, most of the group having moved back towards the bus as we'd been told that our local guides had found a painted-tree frog. We then moved back towards our hotel, but stopped half way back to have a look along the roadside at dusk. The hoped for banana-baited Brown Mouse Lemurs were well seen by all, and once we'd had enough of them we continued walking along the road seeing various chameleons and frogs. After a day full of very interesting and often endemic species we eventually arrived back at the hotel shortly before 7 with time to have a short break, do the log (very interesting this evening) and have another good meal.

Day 6

Thursday 10th October

We started with an early morning bird walk (well four of us did - other members choosing a well-earned "lie-in"), at around 05h45. We walked along the quiet road outside the hotel and although we didn't see a great number of birds we did have good views of quite a few interesting species and added Madagascar Green Pigeon and Madagascar Coucal to the growing trip bird list.

We had breakfast and left for a "fifteen minute" dive to the start of our forest walk in another section of Ranomafana N.P. (Vohiparara). The fifteen minutes turned into half-an-hour as we stopped for a pair of Red-fronted Brown Lemurs and a Blue Coucal along the side of the road. We eventually had a walk in the forest where we saw more bird species, the most interesting being Red-fronted Coua and Madagascar Starling, although another very obliging male Velvet Asity would have been the start if the group hadn't had excellent views of one on the previous morning. Thanks to our lemur trackers we found the hoped-for group of Milne-Edward's Sifakas (3 together) which were obliging and watched for quite a while. Shortly after leaving them we came across a track-side Short-toothed Sportive Lemur and had good views of this very "cuddly" species. The group arrived back at the hotel shortly after 12h30 after more roadside stops, one for a well seen Lesser Vasa Parrot, and another for a hoped for, but not-at-home, Tree Boa.

Lunch was at 13h15 before a shortish rest and afternoon shopping expedition to the close-by village at 15h30. This proved very popular with 8 of us going and having a most interesting and amusing time in the local market. We then left the hotel at just after 16h00 for the planned afternoon look for more birds along the road near the park entrance. We'd only just descended from the bus and it started to rain and as it became stronger we decided to call it a day and go back to the hotel early, allowing time for packing, etc. The species list was started just after 7, we had another nice meal at 19h30 and retired to our rooms shortly after.

Day 7

Friday 11th October

A morning bird walk at 6h00 with a few participants resulted in the most interesting species being a male Madagascar Magpie Robin in the hotel garden. Breakfast was at 06h45 and away at 07h15.

During the morning drive we stopped at the large town of Fiarantsoa for loos, coffee, and a chance for souvenirs... The second stop in the late morning was at the paper factory in another large bustling town, Ambalavao. We stayed there about an hour, seeing how the paper was made using the bark of the Avoha bush, how natural flowers are incorporated into the paper and the final results. The restaurant here provided us with sandwiches after which we were on the way again, the next stop the Ring-tailed Lemur reserve run by the Anjà villagers.

It made for a pleasant break and we had good views of the expected Ring-tails which included many mothers with young, and a less expected Oustalet's Chameleon, our first of the trip. The whole group seemed happy at seeing our first Ring-tailed lemurs and with the thought that we were, in a small way, contributing to a local initiative to protect the wildlife, even if it was to some extent motivated by earnings from tourism. We had our picnic at Anjà just after the lemur visit.

Once back on the road it was explained that we would cross the Ihorombe Plateau, with a good chance of seeing, what is now probably a very rare bird, the Madagascar Harrier. The frequent evidence of large scale burning of large sections of the grasslands would seem to be a poor omen for the harrier's survival, at least in the part of Madagascar that we saw, and despite a few false alarms we didn't manage to see one. However, the searching produced a perched Marsh Owl and we added a few other new species of birds for the trip as we were travelling, the most common was the Madagascar Lark.

We arrived at our hotel, the new and luxurious "le Relais de la Reine" just before dark. The hotel is situated in an area of magnificent scenery, wide expanses of flat, dry, golden plains punctuated by craggy pinnacles, the hotel buildings well assimilated into one of these rocky outcrops. We found our rooms and even had a little time to rest before the 19h15 log followed by a fine evening meal.

Day 8

Saturday 12th October

We looked in the surrounding gardens and rocky outcrops, together seeing a wide variety of species, bird "species" new to the trip included Benson's Rock Thrush singing from the roof of one of our rooms and Madagascar Hoopoe, a pair breeding in the hotel grounds obviously had young. Breakfast was at 7 with a 07h30 departure and a short drive to the Isalo park offices in Ranohira where we picked up our guide (Nirina) for the morning. We walked through the Namazaha Gorge looking at birds on the way, had close encounters with several Ring-tailed Lemurs at the camp site there, they were obviously very used to tourists. Despite a lot of searching we didn't find the local Verreaux's Sifaka.

Back at the hotel at 12h40 for another delicious meal before time off until an organised walk from the hotel at 16h00, with all but one person taking part. We walked a circuit that passed through some magnificent scenery with high, bare, rocky outcrops and narrow canyons...then through the grounds of the adjacent sister hotel "le Jardin du Roy" before moving on to a small lake. During the walk we had excellent views of a few Broad-billed Rollers on the rocks and another two Benson's Rock Thrushes on the "Jardin du Roy's" roofs. The pond and surrounding land produced a couple of new species for the trip: White-faced Duck and Purple Heron. The recently burnt area around produced several Madagascar Larks, the first we'd seen well and on the ground, and an obliging Hoopoe. We arrived back at just before six in plenty of time to have a little time off before doing log, at 19h15, followed by the now expected gourmet meal. Second night was spent at the "Relais de la Reine".

Day 9

Sunday 13th October

Another pre-breakfast bird walk at 05h45 proved popular with most of the group turning up as well as Dési. We walked to the pond again and this morning with the early morning sun on our backs we had good views of many of the birds we saw.

The lake had a splendid Madagascar Pond Heron which we all had telescope views of and 4 Madagascar Kingfishers showed well. Other species seen well during the walk included Madagascar Hoopoe, and a dark morph Madagascar Kestrel.

Once back at the hotel we had just a little time before a 7 o'clock breakfast and 07h30 departure, once again travelling on the N7, this time south-westwards towards Tuléar (Toliara). On the way we stopped for an hour and a half's visit to part of the Zombitsie National Park. This walk through the forest produced the species we particularly wanted to see: Verreaux's Sifaka, Hubbard's Sportive Lemur and the rare, localised and only recently discovered Appert's Greenbul, which has recently undergone a name change and is now Appert's Tetraka. All were well seen by all members of the group.

Once back at the bus it was a long drive to our stop for lunch at the Victory hotel restaurant, in Tuléar on the coast. During the journey we stopped to look at a Madagascar Cuckoo-hawk that was spotted as we were moving. We also stopped at some small ponds just before Tuléar for good views of a couple of each of Kittlitz's Plovers and Black-winged Stilts. We had a little rest in the pleasant hotel grounds before a 15h00 departure for the final destination that day, Ifaty.

The road between Tuléar and Ifaty is in very poor condition so that it took us a bumpy two hours to arrive at our accommodation for the next two nights, the "Les Dunes d'Ifaty" hotel. This very nice hotel is in an idyllic setting, right on the edge of an extensive sandy beach of the warm, clear Indian Ocean. Just before arriving it was a surprise to see a flock of about 40 Frigatebirds sailing along the sea's edge, they eventually circled low, right over the hotel. Once there we found our rooms and had a much deserved rest and meal before retiring for the night. A few Madagascar Nightjars were singing in the hotel grounds and easily visible for all who wanted a look.

Day 10

Monday 14th October

Our day started with a very early morning call at just after half-past four and we gathered outside the hotel lobby at 5. This was to avoid the heat and have the best chance of seeing some of the special bird species that occur in the spiny bush north of Ifaty. It was a short drive and walk to the entrance of the Reniala nature reserve where we met our local guide and local tracker. We weren't disappointed; we had an excellent few hours birding with very good views of many special birds. One highlight amongst many was a group of seven Sub-desert Mesites huddled together at their roost site, they were all facing the same way and absurdly the four males and three females were lined up alternatively according to sex! Another highlight, a Banded Kestrel being attacked by a pair of Sickle-billed Vangas, not to forget a close encounter with the hoped for Long-tailed Ground-roller... The many Baobabs were often very large and picturesque which all added to what was a splendid early morning. We were back for a late breakfast at 9 when we all agreed that the early rise had been well and truly worthwhile.

So it was then the morning off to relax, have a swim in the pool or sea or even catch up on sleep. Lunch was at 13h15 followed by an outing at 16h00 to try and find a few waders on the local salt pans. The wind made looking at the few waders there rather difficult although we did manage to pick out a few Curlew Sandpipers and a Ruddy Turnstone. In a nearby garden we stopped to look at a group of birds on the ground and found our only Madagascar Buttonquail of the trip, 5 in all of what is a very attractive species, one of those species in which females are much more colourful than males.

We drove the short way back to the hotel, with a choice of either going back to our rooms or having a swim (in the swimming pool or the sea) and for those who wanted a walk along the beach to see if we could find much – the only bird of note was a close Grey Plover. The species log at 7pm was followed by another tasty evening meal followed by packing ready for our early departure the next day (or another look at Madagascar Nightjar). We had our second night at the “Dunes d’Ifaty” hotel.

Day 11

Tuesday 15th October

Another early breakfast was had in order to be in good time for our morning flight from Tuléar. We stopped on the way a few times to look at birds which included a few Kittlitz’s Plovers, Curlew Sandpipers and our one and only Ringed Plover of the trip. We arrived at Tuléar airport in good time for our plane. At the airport we said goodbye to our driver for the last week, Njaka, - everyone was happy with his driving in what are not particularly easy conditions. Checking in at Tuléar airport was both easy and the pre-departure lounge was airy and comfortable. Our 09h10 flight to Tana left on time. At Tana our new driver, driver’s mate and bus were waiting for us.

We were soon on our way eastwards on the N2 road, stopping in Tana to fill up with diesel and pick up our picnic. The N2 is very busy being the main road between Tana and Madagascar’s most important commercial port at Tamatave. There are some points along the way; we stopped for a picnic and a look at the Mangoro River. As is often the case, searching the large boulders in the river from the bridge produced the hoped for Madagascar Pratincoles although they were quite distant, on exactly the same rocks as last year. The telescope came in very useful, without it, it would have been difficult to be sure of the birds’ identity. The impressive Vakona Forest Lodge came into view just after 16h00, which gave us time to have an evening’s rest after two early mornings.

Day 12

Wednesday 16th October

Today’s pre-breakfast walk, from 06h00 to 06h30, proved to be productive - we saw a few birds: a Nelicourvi Weaver building a nest, a Ward’s Flycatcher (now classified as a Vanga), a Chabert’s Vanga, a Madagascar Manakin, and the usual Madagascar White-eyes and Souimanga Sunbirds.

Breakfast was at 06h30 with a 07h00 departure for an half hour drive to the entrance of the Analamazaotra Special Reserve near Andasibe village, an annexe of the Mantadia National Park. We were joined at the entrance by our local guide for the next two-and-a-half days, the irreplaceable Maurice. The main reason for visiting this part of the park is to see the Indri and Diademed Sifaka. We spent more than an hour looking for Indri without success, although we did hear their evocative cries a few times. We diverted to look at a group of three Diademed Sifakas which we all saw well, often very close. Once finished with them we quickly moved off to see a group of Indri which were eventually at close range and fantastically, towards the end of our period with them they started calling (more shouting), a wonderful and very noisy experience.

We returned back to the lodge at 12h15 for lunch and a little rest. Off again at 15h45 for a walk along the Andasibe village road to try and find a few birds and lemurs. We weren’t disappointed; Blue Pigeon which was a new species for the trip list was soon found as was a Common Brown lemur.

Next came a fine Parson's Chameleon, another species we hadn't yet seen on the trip which was followed shortly afterwards by our first Short-nosed Chameleon. At a point where the road crosses the river we stopped so that Maurice could try to call up the very much hoped for White-throated Rail. We had all but given up hope when a keen-eyed member of the group picked out a dark shape on the bare ground below us and we all eventually had views of this elusive bird, albeit in fading light. We then followed a family of five Common Brown Lemurs, which took it in turns to show-off to us by leaping the river from the branches of an overhanging tree.

With a little time before sunset we opted for a coffee and comfort stop in a nearby restaurant before moving off back down the road in the dark. This proved most worthwhile with a few more chameleons and frogs and very good long views of 3 Dwarf Lemurs (distinguishing between the different dwarf lemurs is very difficult), so we saw some dwarf lemurs and they are likely to have been Crossley's Dwarf Lemurs. It was then back to the lodge for a little time off before a late species log followed by the evening meal.

Day 13

Thursday 17th October

Another pre-breakfast walk at 6am produced little of interest. Once again we had breakfast at 06h30 and left on the bus at 7am to go into the heart of Mantadia National Park. This begins with a one and a half hour drive along an unsurfaced road; but often with things to see along the way, this time Eastern Grey Bamboo Lemurs. Once we arrived at the car park and set off into the forest, within minutes Maurice spotted a pair of Red-bellied Lemurs which we all saw well. This morning's walk produced many other species including a pair of very confiding Collared Nightjars. We later had good, though distant, views of Black-and-white Ruffed Lemurs, an saw other bird species including Nuthatch Vanga; but no Ground-roller. Quite a few times during the morning we heard Indris calling again.

Towards the end of the morning we walked up to small lake where we found the species we had hoped to see, a pair of Madagascar Grebes with a nest and a single male Meller's Duck with Swamp Warbler an extra. We picnicked in the park. There was then another try for Ground-roller but still no luck; we did however have good views of a couple of Indri. Eventually it was time to leave and drive back to the Vakona Lodge, arriving there at just after 14h45.

Meet up again at 17h00 for a last night walk, again along the road at Andisibe. Once again this proved interesting, with the same Parson's Chameleon, in exactly the same place, followed by two lemur species new for the trip: Goodman's Mouse Lemur and a well seen Eastern Woolly Lemur. We were back at the lodge after 19h30, had log and evening meal at 20h30 and settled down for a "lazy night" as we didn't plan to leave the lodge until 08h00.

Day 14

Friday 18th October

The pre-breakfast walk had only 3 of us. This was a shame as we saw some interesting birds including a large heron, accompanied at times by the wonderful calls of Indri which appeared to be quite close to the lodge. The heron wasn't seen for long but was almost certainly a Humbolt Heron. We also had good views of an obliging Madagascar Pygmy Kingfisher.

We left the lodge at just after 08h00 as planned, to drive the half hour to the entrance of the Analamaoatra Special Reserve. Before arriving we found Maurice waiting for us on the side of the road in some woodland, he quickly informed us that he knew where a Long-eared Owl was roosting; not any common-old Long-eared owl but another new species for the trip, a Madagascar Long-eared Owl. It wasn't far from the road and not too difficult to get to, so we all had reasonable views of it roosting high in a Eucalyptus tree. Back to the bus we continued to the reserve. For our second visit here Maurice showed us some very interesting species, the best a chicken-look-alike, a Madagascar Ibis on the nest (fantastic!). We also saw a pair of roosting Rainforest Scops Owl and one or two of us glimpsed a Flufftail that Maurice had called up. On the way back and without trying we came across two different groups of two Indris which would prove to be our last lemurs of the trip.

We were back at the entrance at midday having had a most interesting visit. Here we had our picnic, said fond farewells to Maurice and headed off towards Tana. A visit to a souvenir shop in Tana proved popular and we got to the Orchid hotel at 18h45. This left plenty of time for us to use our day-rooms for an hour before going to the Savana restaurant just across the road for our evening meal. Then it was time to go off to the airport where formalities proved to be quite easy followed by a wait for our Air France flight early Saturday morning. Some of the waiting time was used to do our final species log.

Day 15

Saturday 19th October

The plane left Tana and got to Paris where everyone got their connecting flights home.

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Species List

Mammals (✓ = recorded but not counted)

	Common name	Scientific name	October												
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
1	Brown (Rufous) Mouse Lemur	<i>Microcebus rufus</i>			2										
2	Goodman's Mouse Lemur	<i>Microcebus lehilahytsara</i>											1		
3	Crossley's (Furry-eared) Dwarf Lemur	<i>Cheirogalus crossleyi</i>										3			
4	Small-toothed Sportive Lemur	<i>Lepilemur microdon</i>				1									
5	Hubbard's Sportive Lemur	<i>Lepilemur hubbardorum</i>							1						
6	Eastern Grey Bamboo Lemur	<i>Hapalemur griseus</i>										5	2+	3	
7	Golden Bamboo Lemur	<i>Hapalemur aureus</i>			5	✓									
8	Greater Bamboo Lemur	<i>Hapalemur simus</i>			2	✓									
9	Ring-tailed Lemur	<i>Lemur catta</i>					20	10							
10	Common Brown Lemur	<i>Eulemur fulvus</i>										6	✓		
11	Red-fronted Brown Lemur	<i>Eulemur rufus</i>				3									
12	Red-bellied Lemur	<i>Eulemur rubriventer</i>		1♂	2	1							2		
13	Black and White Ruffed Lemur	<i>Varecia variegata variegata</i>	7										3		
14	Eastern Woolly Lemur	<i>Avahi laniger</i>											2		
15	Verreaux's Sifaka	<i>Propithecus verreauxi</i>								12					
16	Diademed Sifaka	<i>Propithecus diadema</i>										3			
17	Milne-Edwards' Sifaka	<i>Propithecus edwardsi</i>				3									
18	Indri	<i>Indri indri</i>										3	2	4	
19	Ring-tailed Mongoose	<i>Galidia elegans</i>										1			
20	Lowland Streaked Tenrec	<i>Hemicentetes semispinosus</i>			1										
21	Eastern Red Forest Rat	<i>Nesomys rufus</i>				1									
22	Rat sp.						1								
23	Small (Pipistrelle type) bat sp.												2		

Birds (H = heard only)

1	Madagascar Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus pelzelinii</i>												2	
2	Frigate bird sp.	<i>Fregata sp.</i>								c.40	a few				

	Common name	Scientific name	October												
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
3	Madagascar Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola idae</i>									1				
4	Common Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	✓									10			a few
5	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>		10								1			1
6	Green-backed Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>			1	2						5+		1	3
7	Great White Egret	<i>Egretta alba</i>	20	a few								a few			✓
8	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	many	a few			10	✓				✓			✓
9	Black Egret	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>		1											
10	Dimorphic Heron	<i>Egretta dimorpha</i>	many	many				✓				✓			a few
11	Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>							2	1					
12	Humboldt's Heron	<i>Ardea humbloti</i>													1
13	Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>		1			1					1			2
14	Madagascar Crested Ibis	<i>Lophotibis cristata</i>													1 nest
15	Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>		13			4								
16	Meller's Duck	<i>Anas melleri</i>												1	
17	White-faced Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>							2	2					
18	Madagascar Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides radiatus</i>									1				
19	Madagascar Buzzard	<i>Buteo brachypterus</i>		2+			3	2							
20	Madagascar Cuckoo Hawk	<i>Aviceda madagascariensis</i>								1					
21	Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptus</i>		10		3	many	✓	✓	✓					
22	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>							1+	✓	□				
23	Banded Kestrel	<i>Falco zoniventris</i>									1+				
24	Frances's Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter francesiae</i>			1										
25	Madagascar Kestrel	<i>Falco newtoni</i>	2	4		2	a few	a few	a few	✓	a few	a few	1	1	
26	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	2H												
27	Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>						3	10						
28	Madagascar Wood Rail	<i>Canirallus kiolooides</i>													H
29	Subdesert Mesite	<i>Monias benschi</i>									7				
30	Madagascar Button-quail	<i>Turnix nigricollis</i>									5				
31	White-throated Rail	<i>Dryolimnas cuvieri</i>											1	H	
32	Madagascar Flufftail	<i>Sarothrura insularis</i>													1H

	Common name	Scientific name	October											
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
33	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>					1						1	
34	Madagascar Pratincole	<i>Glareola ocularis</i>										2		
35	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>									1			
36	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>								2				
37	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>									1			
38	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>										1		
39	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>								4	6	a few		
40	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>								1	6			
41	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	2	2						2	4+	1 or 2		
42	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	5											
43	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>									3	a few		
44	Madagascar Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles personatus</i>												
45	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>		✓								a few		
46	Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>			H		1	3+	3+					2
47	Madagascar Blue Pigeon	<i>Alectroenas madagascariensis</i>			H								1	
48	Madagascar Green Pigeon	<i>Treron australis</i>				1								2
49	Madagascar Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia picturata</i>						2	2	✓	1			2+
50	Grey-headed Lovebird	<i>Agapornis canus</i>							a few		9			
51	Greater Vasa Parrot	<i>Coracopsis vasa</i>		4							2+			
52	Lesser Vasa Parrot	<i>Coracopsis nigra</i>			H	2	1					1	✓	✓ a few
53	Madagascar Coucal	<i>Centropus toulou</i>				2		a few	1	1	1	12	1 H	a few
54	Thick-billed Cuckoo	<i>Pachycoccyx audeberti</i>												
55	Madagascar Lesser Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus rochii</i>		H	1(H)	1(H)				1				1 (H) 1 (H)
56	Green-capped Coua	<i>Coua olivaceiceps</i>									3			
57	Red-capped Coua	<i>Coua ruficeps</i>												3
58	Running Coua	<i>Coua cursor</i>									2			
59	Red-fronted Coua	<i>Coua reynaudii</i>				1								
60	Blue Coua	<i>Coua caerulea</i>		H		3	a few						a few	a few 1
61	Crested Coua	<i>Coua cristata</i>									2			
62	Madagascar Long-eared Owl	<i>Asio madagascariensis</i>												1

	Common name	Scientific name	October														
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
63	White-browed Owl	<i>Ninox superciliaris</i>									1						
64	African Marsh Owl	<i>Asio capensis</i>					1										
65	Rainforest Scops Owl	<i>Otus rutilus</i>										(H)				2	
66	Torotoroka Owl	<i>Otus madagascariensis</i>							H							H	
67	Collared Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus enarratus</i>														2	
68	Madagascar Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus madagascariensis</i>	H							H	H					1+	H
69	Madagascar Black Swift	<i>Apus balstoni</i>			a few			1				2	2			2	
70	Madagascar Spine-tailed Swift	<i>Zoonavena grandidieri</i>			1	a few	1				1					a few	✓
71	African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>			2	2	✓	a few	✓	✓	a few						
72	Brown-throated Sand Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	a few	a few													
73	Mascarene Martin	<i>Phedina borbonica</i>	a few	a few	many	a few	✓	a few	✓			many	many		many	many	
74	Madagascar Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo vintsioides</i>				1	1			4		1	1		2	1 or 2	
75	Madagascar Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx madagascariensis</i>			3	2											1
76	Madagascar Bee-eater	<i>Merops superciliosus</i>		30	2	a few	✓	many	a few	a few							a few
77	Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>	1						6	1						3	
78	Madagascar Cuckoo-Roller	<i>Leptosomus discolor</i>			2	2(H)				H				H	1(H)	H	
79	Pitta-like Ground-Roller	<i>Atelornis pittoides</i>			2	-1											
80	Long-tailed Ground-Roller	<i>Uratelornis chimaera</i>									2						
81	Velvet Asity	<i>Philepitta castanea</i>			1♂	1♂											
82	Madagascar Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</i>	2		a few	a few			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
83	Long-billed Bernieria (Tetraka)	<i>Bernieria madagascariensis</i>				1				2				2	1		
84	Spectacled Tetraka	<i>Xanthomixis zosterops</i>			2	-2											
85	Appert's Tetraka	<i>Xanthomixis apperti</i>								2							
86	Yellow-browed Oxylabes	<i>Crossleyia xanthophrys</i>															
87	Madagascar Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus albospectularis</i>			1+	a few	1			3	✓			a few	✓	1+	
88	Madagascar Hoopoe	<i>Upupa marginata</i>							3	2	4						
89	Forest Rock-Thrush	<i>Monticola sharpei</i>				1											
90	Benson's Rock-Thrush	<i>Monticola sharpei bensoni</i>							6	a few							
91	Malagasy Stonechat	<i>Saxicola tectes</i>	2	✓				✓	2			1			1	a few	
92	Madagascar Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flaviventris</i>	4	a few	a few	✓	✓	a few	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	a few

	Common name	Scientific name	October												
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
93	Madagascar Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone mutata</i>			a few				a few		✓	1		✓	3
94	Ward's Vanga	<i>Pseudobias wardi</i>										1	3	2	1
95	Common Newtonia	<i>Newtonia brunneicauda</i>			a few	1				1				1	
96	Red-tailed Newtonia	<i>Newtonia fanovanae</i>				1									
97	Archbold's Newtonia	<i>Newtonia archboldi</i>									2				
98	Madagascar Cisticola	<i>Cisticola cherina</i>					a few	4	a few	a few					
99	Madagascar Bush Lark	<i>Mirafra hova</i>						✓	10	✓	✓				
100	Madagascar Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus newtoni</i>		1(H)										2	
101	Madagascar Brush Warbler	<i>Nesillas typica</i>	1			1						1	2(H)		
102	Common Jery	<i>Neomixis tenella</i>	1							✓	✓			1	
103	Stripe-throated Jery	<i>Neomixis striatigula</i>			1	1					✓				
104	Green Jery	<i>Neomixis viridis</i>	1	3		a few	1	a few							
105	Rand's Tetraka	<i>Randia pseudozosterops</i>				2							2+		
106	Cryptic Tetraka	<i>Cryptosylvicola randrianasoloi</i>				1									
107	Madagascar White-eye	<i>Zosterops maderaspatanus</i>	3	H	a few	many	a few					✓	a few	✓	a few
108	Madagascar Green Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia notata</i>	1	1	✓	2	1	4			2		1	1	1
109	Souimanga Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia sovimanga</i>	3	a few	✓	a few	a few	a few	a few	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
110	Nuthatch Vanga	<i>Hypositta corallirostris</i>												2+	
111	White-headed Vanga	<i>Artamella viridis</i>			1			1		1					
112	Chabert's Vanga	<i>Leptopterus chabert</i>			3	✓							2	1	
113	Sickle-billed Vanga	<i>Falco pectoralis</i>								3					
114	Red-tailed Vanga	<i>Calicalicus madagascariensis</i>			1	2or3							2+		
115	Hook-billed Vanga	<i>Vanga curvirostris</i>								1					
116	Pollen's Vanga	<i>Xenopirostris polleni</i>					1								
117	Madagascar Cuckoo Shrike	<i>Coracina cinerea</i>		1	2								1	1	
118	Madagascar Starling	<i>Saroglossa aurata</i>				1									
119	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	many	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
120	Crested Drongo	<i>Dicrurus forficatus</i>			1	3		a few	a few	✓	a few	1	2	2+	
121	Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>		many		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
122	Madagascar Fody	<i>Foudia madagascariensis</i>	a few	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				

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123	Forest Fody	<i>Foudia eminentissima</i>			1								1	
124	Sakalava Weaver	<i>Ploceus sakalava</i>									a few			
125	Nelicourvi Weaver	<i>Ploceus nelicourvi</i>				2						2	1	1
126	Madagascar Mannikin	<i>Lonchura nana</i>	1				2		many	a few				4

Reptiles & Amphibians

1	a Tree Frog	<i>Boophis idea</i>			1									
2	a Tree Frog	<i>Boophis madagascariensis</i>		2	✓									
3	Painted Golden Tree Frog	<i>Mantella madagascariensis</i>			1									
4	a Frog	<i>Mantydactylus pulcher</i>												
5	Short-horned Chameleon	<i>Calumma brevicornis</i>										1		
6	Short-nosed Chameleon	<i>Calumma gastrotaenia</i>			1									
7	Parson's Chameleon	<i>Calumma parsonii</i>										1♂	1♂	1♂
8	Nose-horned Chameleon	<i>Calumma nasuta</i>			1									
9	Blue-legged Chameleon	<i>Calumma crypticum</i>			2									
10	Blue-nosed (Boettger's) Chameleon	<i>Calumma boettgeri</i>							1	1				
11	Oustalet's Chameleon	<i>Furcifer oustaleti</i>					1♂	2						
12	Three-eyed Lizard	<i>Chalerodon madagascariensis</i>							1	1				
13	Collared Iguanid	<i>Oplurus cuveri</i>		1										
14	Grandidier's Iguanid	<i>Oplurus grandidieri</i>						20						
15	Dwarf Plated Lizard	<i>Tracheloptychus madagascariensis</i>			a few	1								
16	Four-eyed Emerald Day Gecko	<i>Phelsuma quadriocellata</i>			1									
17	a Skink	<i>Mabuya elegans</i>				1		1						
18	Lined Snake	<i>Liopholidophis lateralis</i>	1					1						
19	Madagascar Tree Boa	<i>Sanzinia madagascariensis</i>				1							1	
20	Radiated Tortoise	<i>Geochelone radiata</i>						2						